

MAUGUÏL • CASTAN

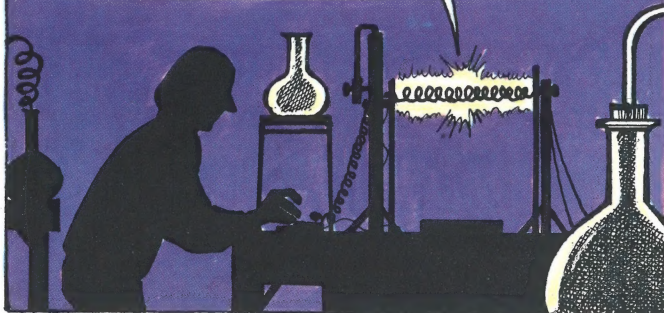
ZELTRON, LITTLE SOUP AND THE GANG



FERNAND NATHAN

CASTAN

AFTER RESEARCH BY THE ITALIANS GALVANI AND VOLTA, AND THE FRENCHMAN THENARD, IN 1801, IT'S BEEN SHOWN THAT I CAN MAKE A THREAD GLOW. I BLUSH WITH SHYNESS...



...A YEAR LATER, THE ENGLISHMAN DAVY MANAGED TO TRANSFORM ME INTO A SPARK...



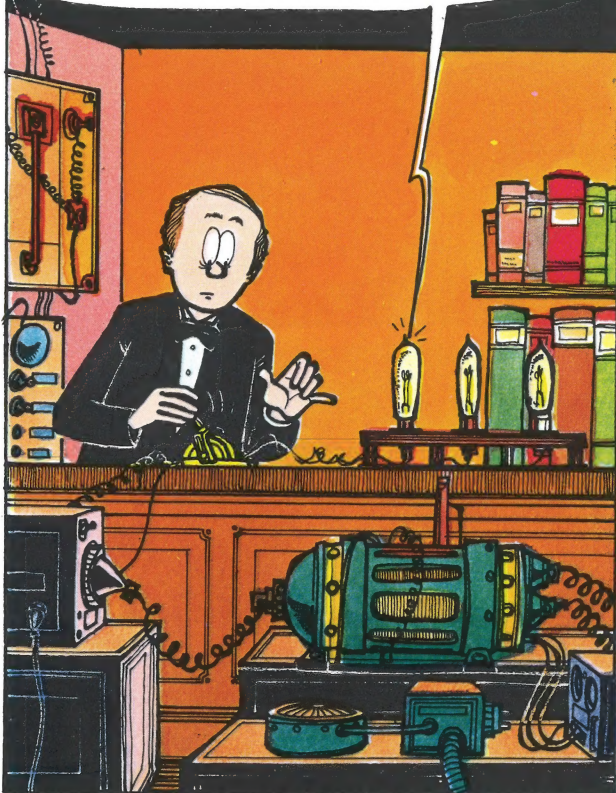
...THEN, IN 1844, THE PARISIANS SAW ME ILLUMINATE THE PLACE DE LA CONCORDE FOR ONE EVENING - I SPOUTED OUT IN AN ARCH, BETWEEN TWO VERY HARD COAL POINTS...



...IT WOULD TAKE ANOTHER FIFTEEN YEARS FOR ME TO BE INSTALLED IN PLACE OF A FEW OIL LAMPS IN THE HEADLIGHTS...

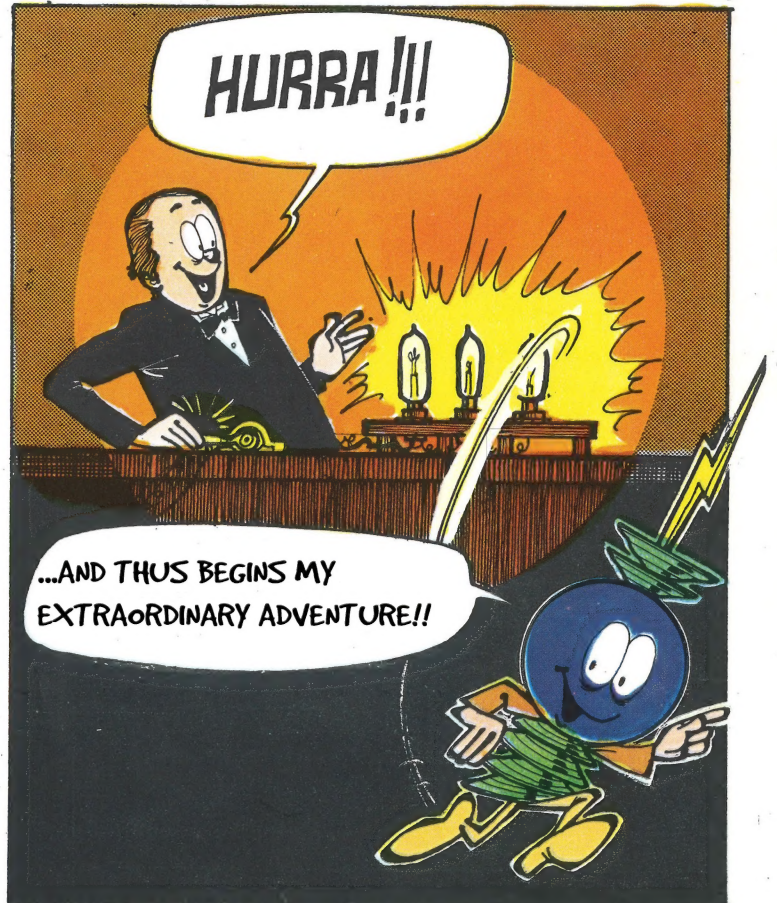


...UNTIL 1878, WHEN EDISON FINALLY MANAGED TO RELEASE ME!

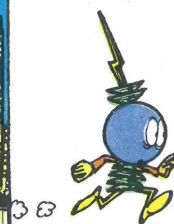
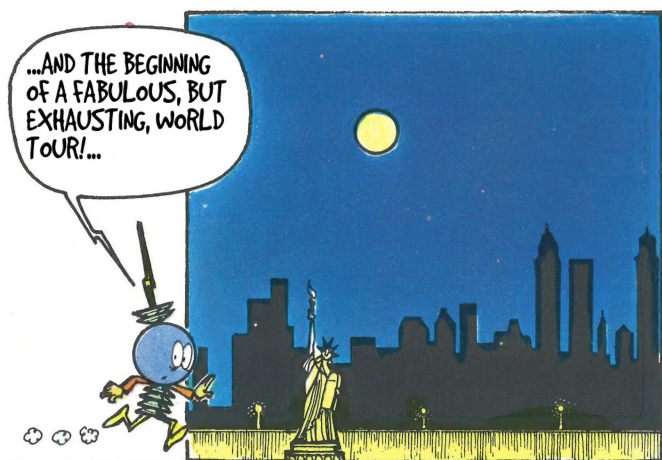


HURRA!!!

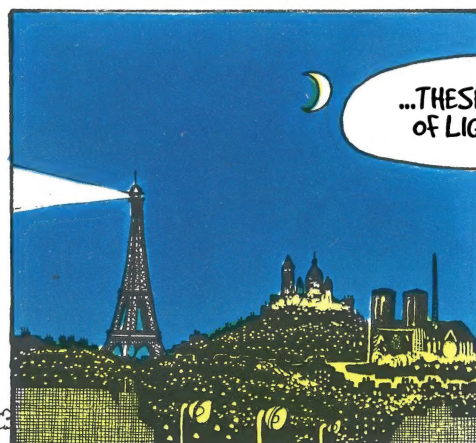
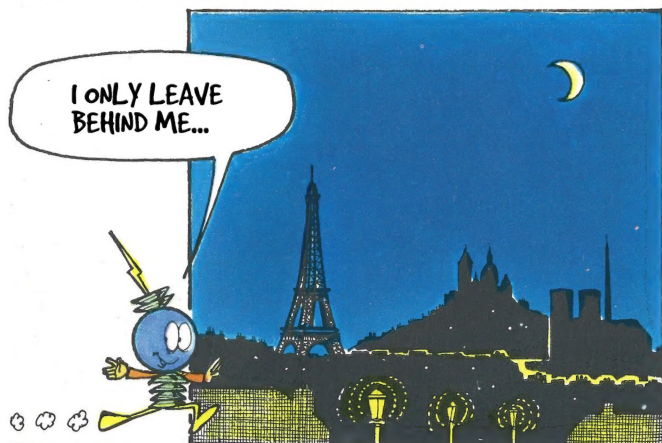
...AND THUS BEGINS MY EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURE!!



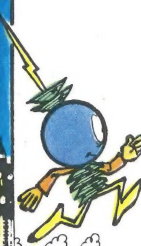
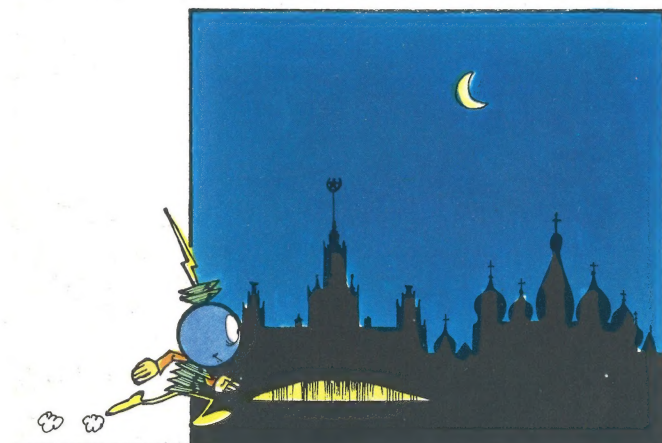
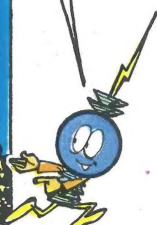
...AND THE BEGINNING
OF A FABULOUS, BUT
EXHAUSTING, WORLD
TOUR!...



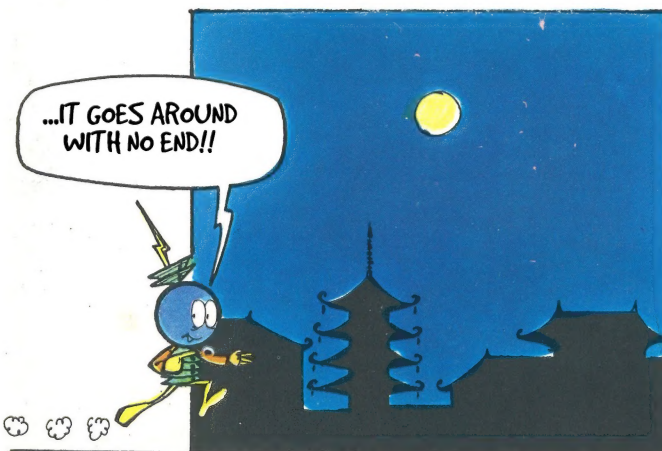
I ONLY LEAVE
BEHIND ME...

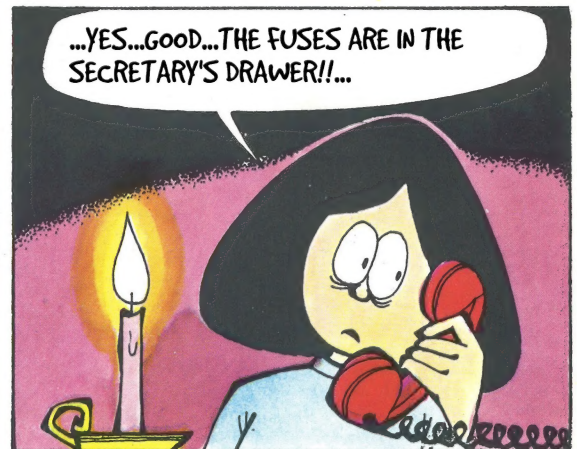
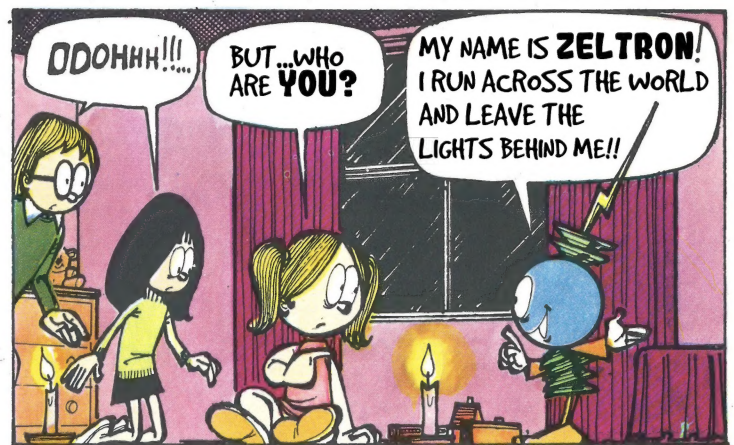
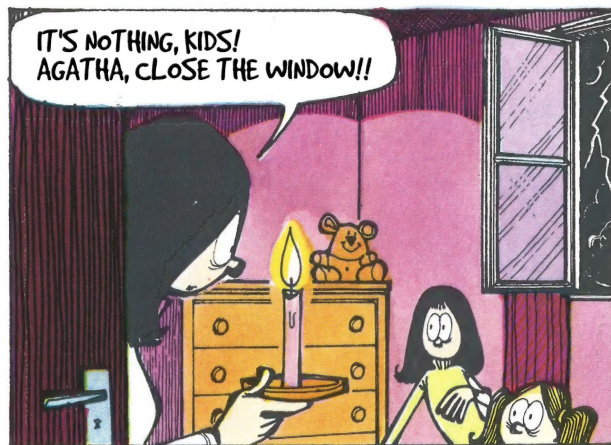
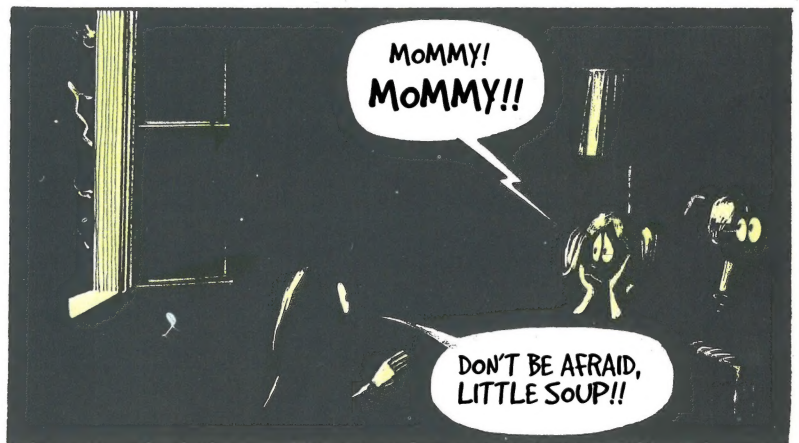
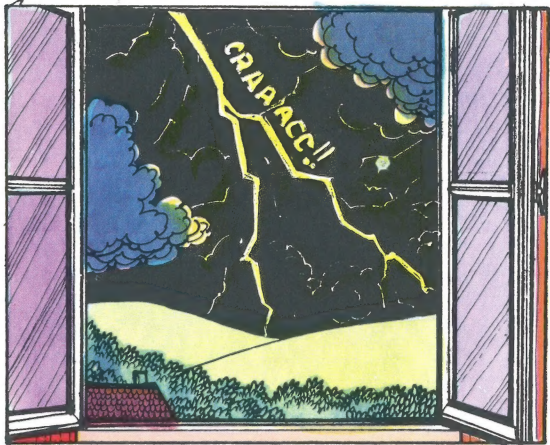
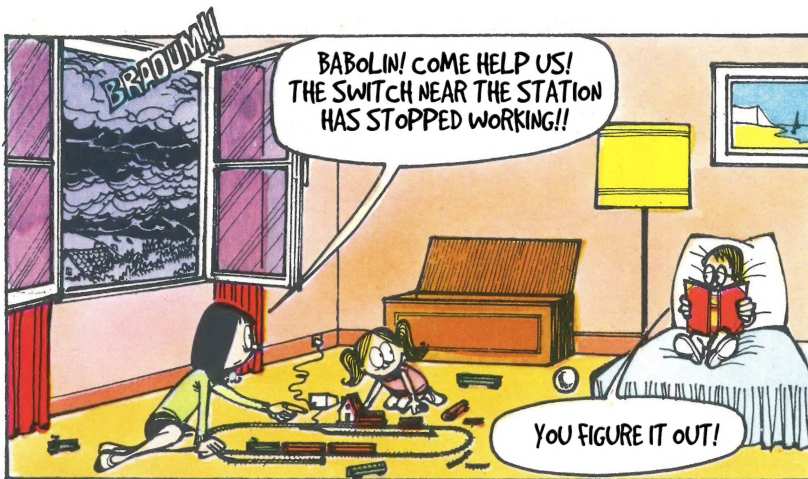


...THESE CITIES
OF LIGHTS!!!



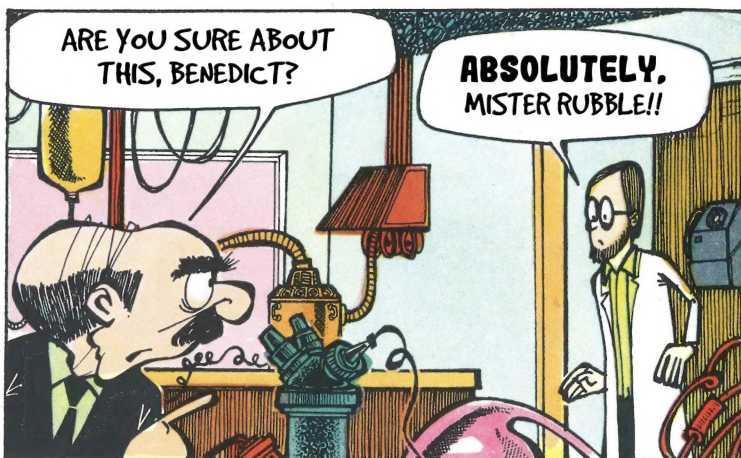
...IT GOES AROUND
WITH NO END!!





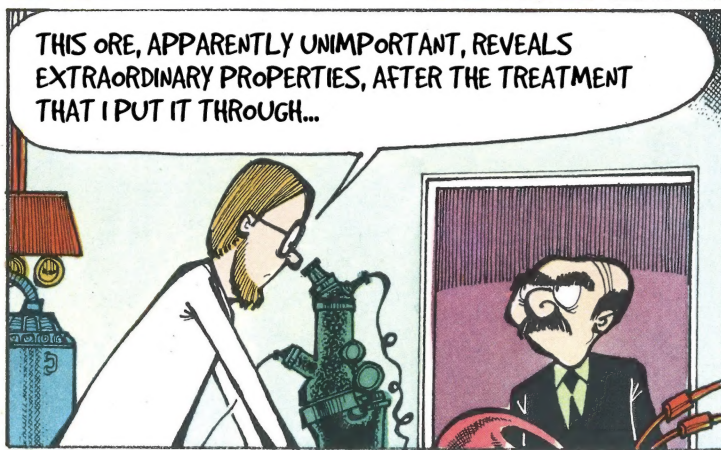


YES, THAT'S IT, HONEY!...I'LL BE BACK A LITTLE LATE!...SEE YOU LATER!!...

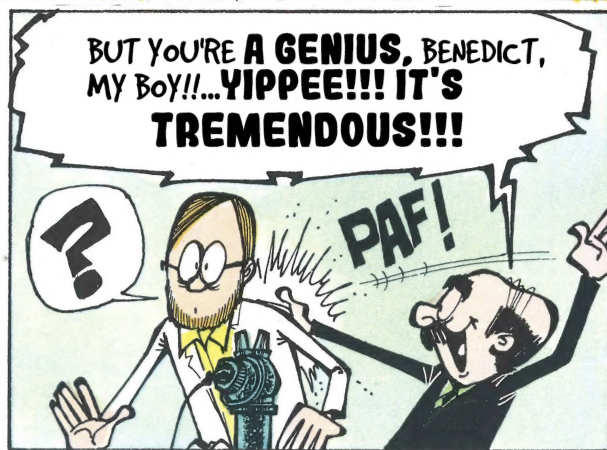


ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS, BENEDICT?

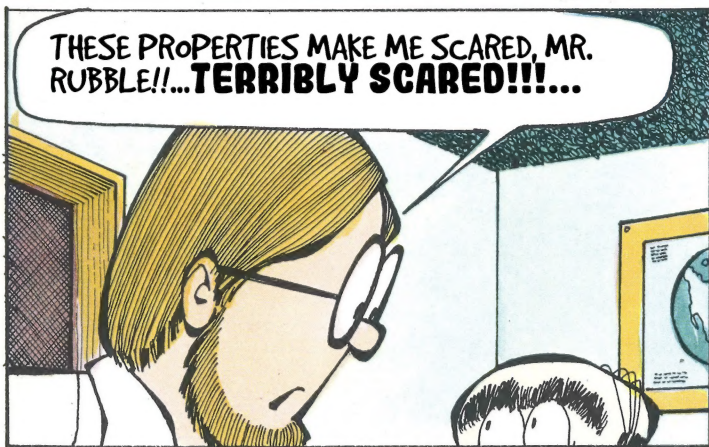
ABSOLUTELY, MISTER RUBBLE!!



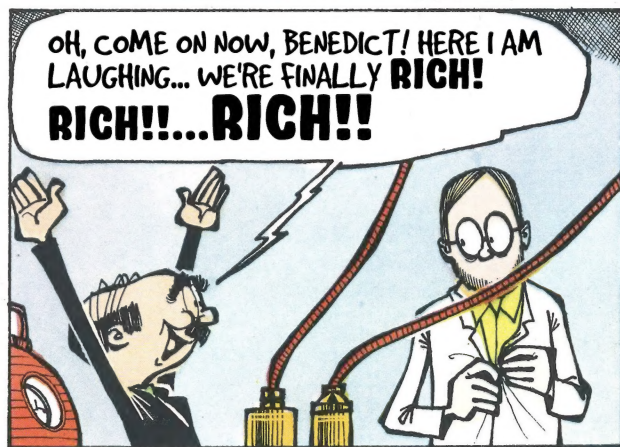
THIS ORE, APPARENTLY UNIMPORTANT, REVEALS EXTRAORDINARY PROPERTIES, AFTER THE TREATMENT THAT I PUT IT THROUGH...



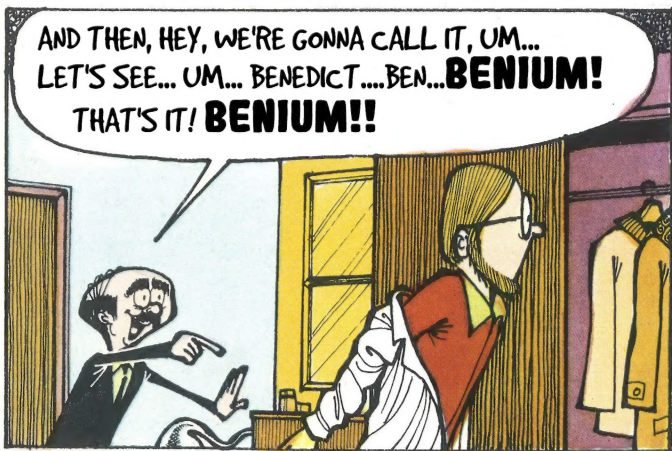
BUT YOU'RE **A GENIUS**, BENEDICT, MY BOY!!!...**YIPPEE!!! IT'S TREMENDOUS!!!**



THESE PROPERTIES MAKE ME SCARED, MR. RUBBLE!!!...**TERRIBLY SCARED!!!!...**



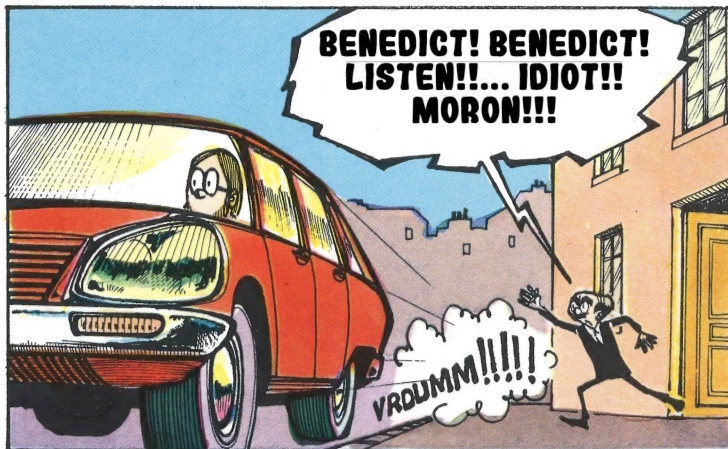
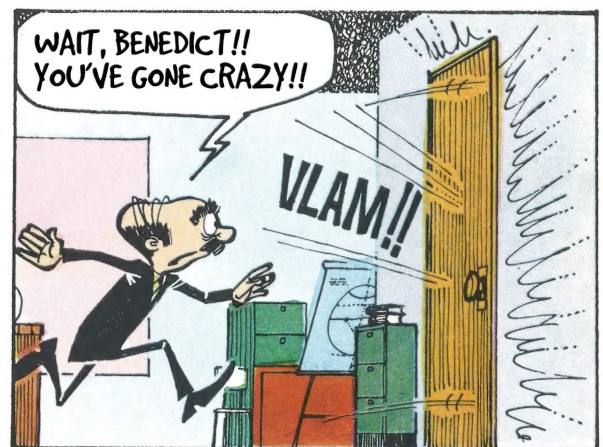
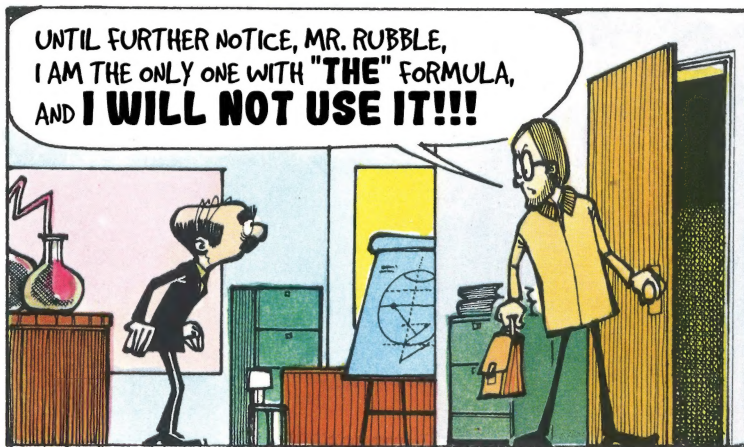
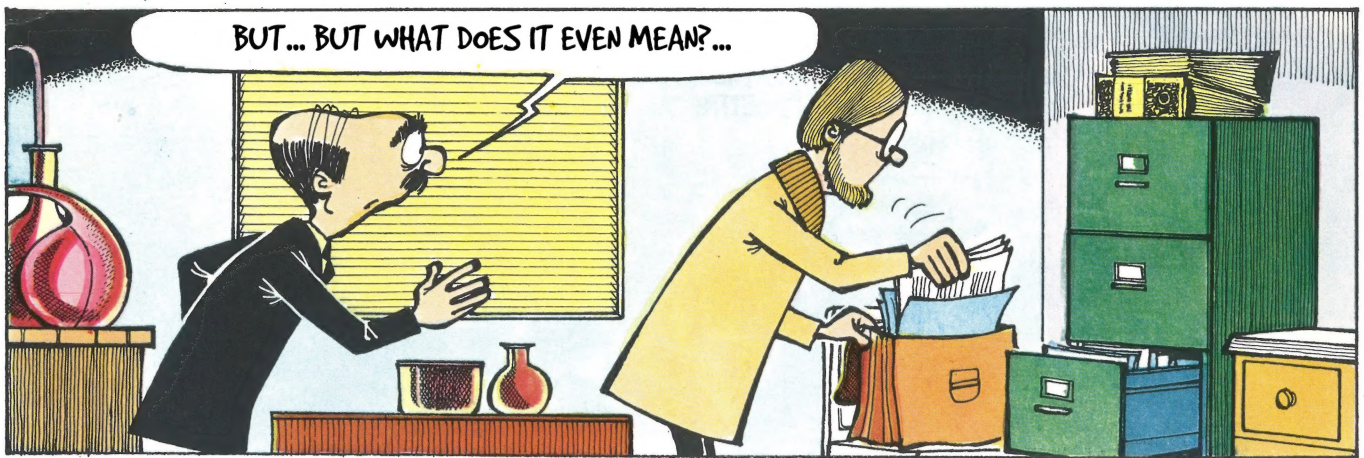
OH, COME ON NOW, BENEDICT! HERE I AM LAUGHING... WE'RE FINALLY **RICH! RICH!!!...RICH!!**

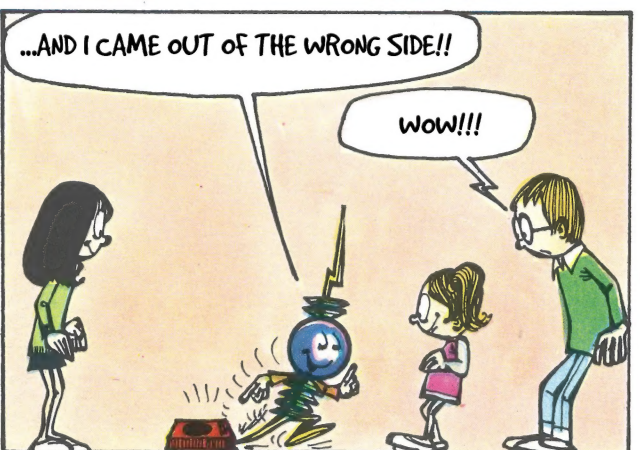
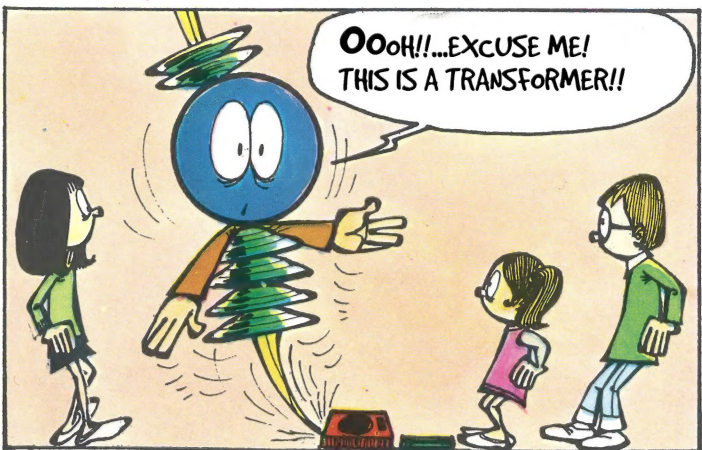
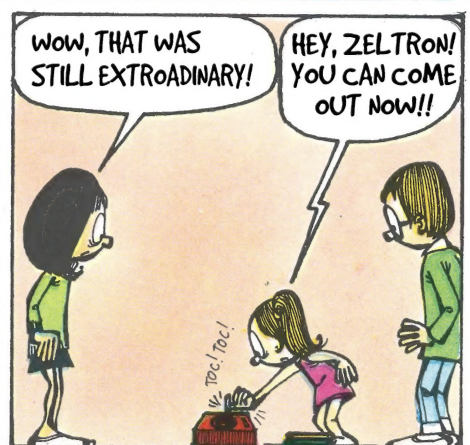
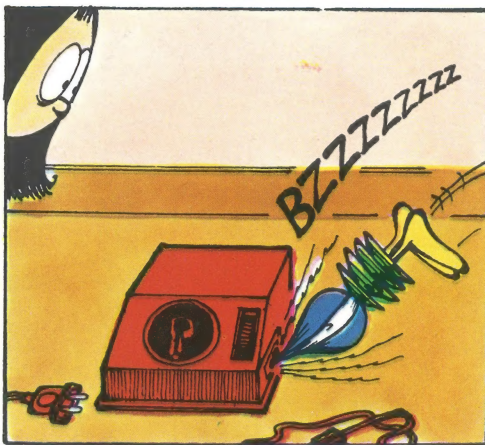
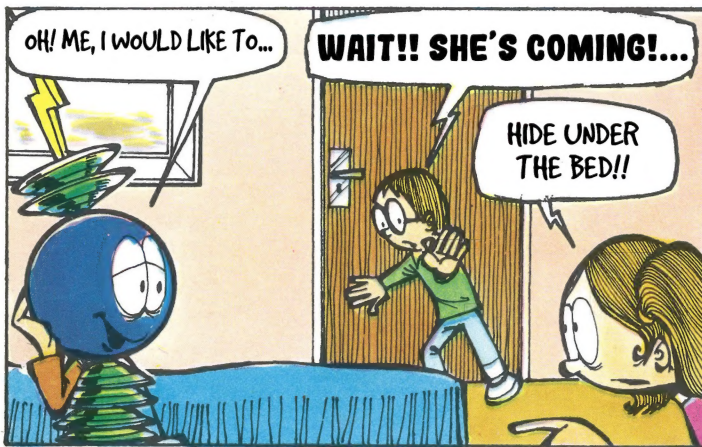
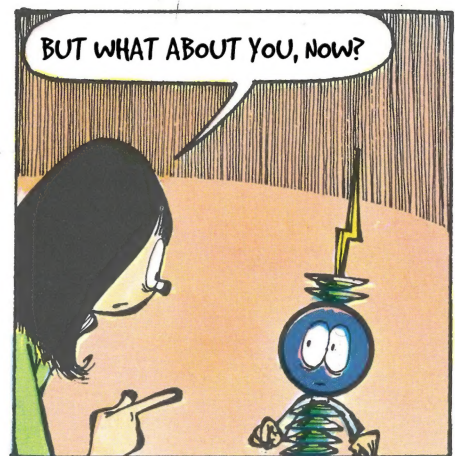
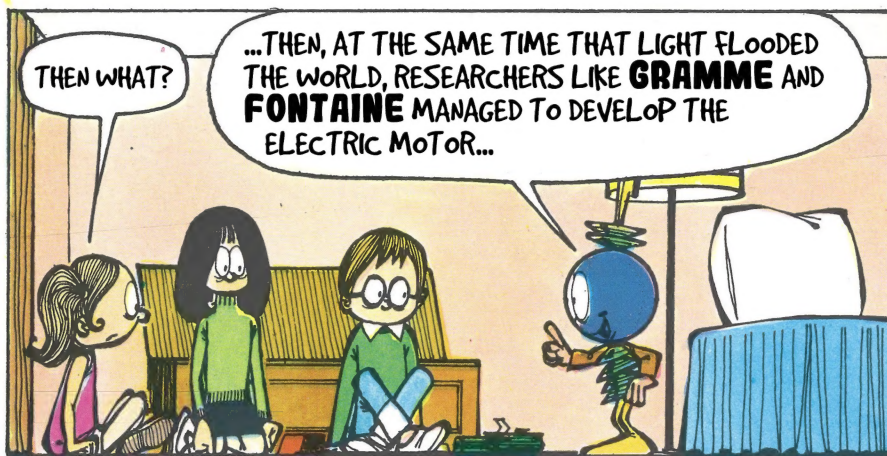


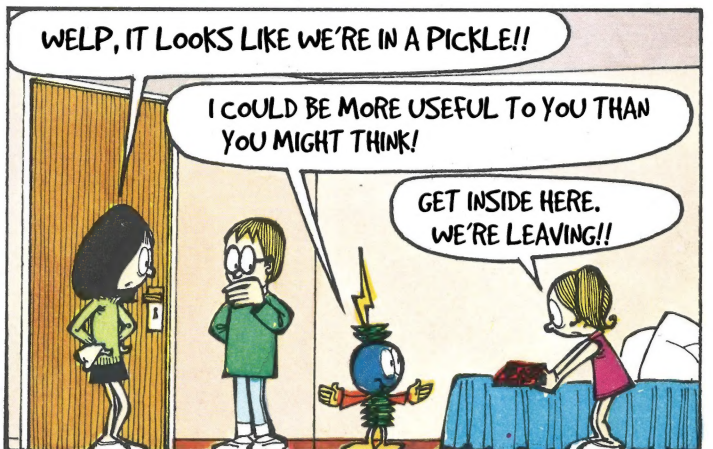
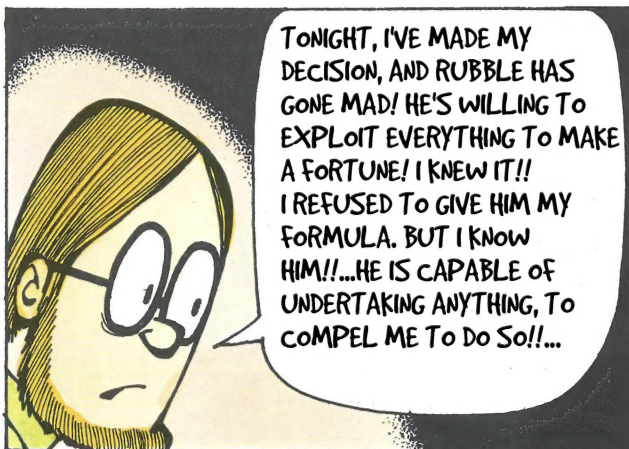
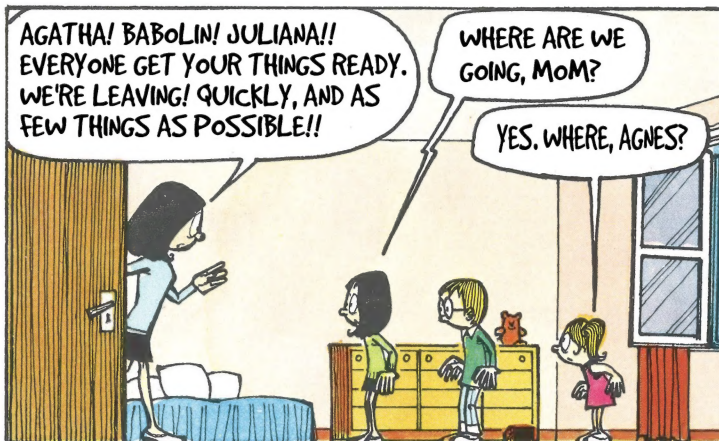
AND THEN, HEY, WE'RE GONNA CALL IT, UM... LET'S SEE... UM... BENEDICT...BEN...**BENIUM!** THAT'S IT! **BENIUM!!**



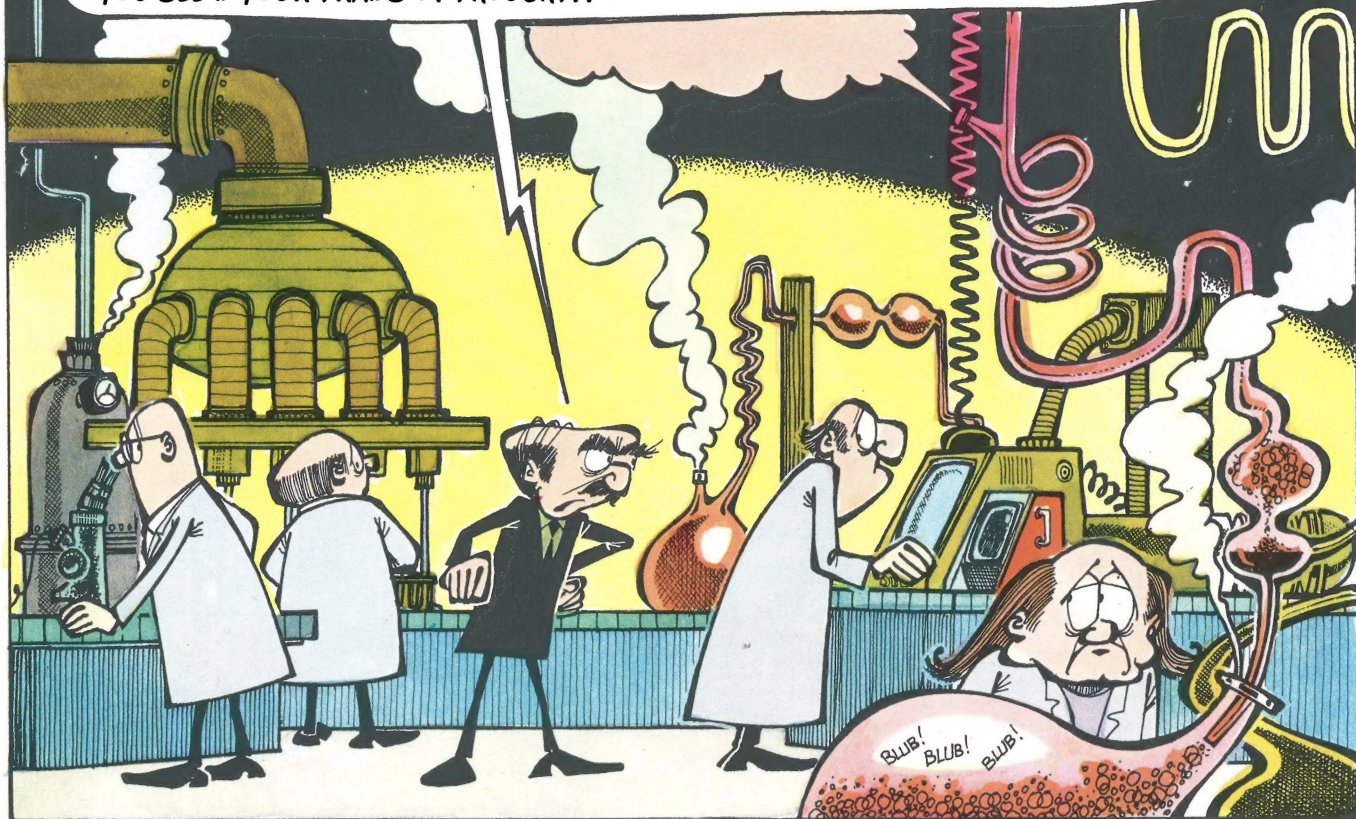
WAIT... WHAT ARE YOU DOING, BENEDICT?







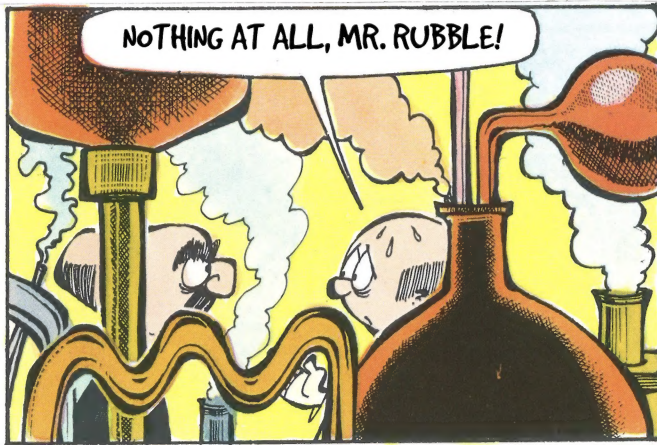
SO, YOU INCOMPETENT FOOLS. CAN YOU FIND THIS FORMULA FOR ME? HUH? WHAT DO YOU SEE IN YOUR TRAINS OF THOUGHT??



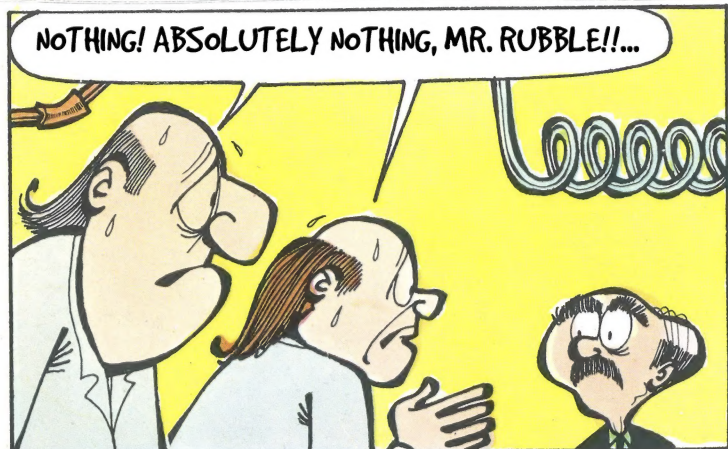
NOTHING, MISTER RUBBLE!



NOTHING AT ALL, MR. RUBBLE!

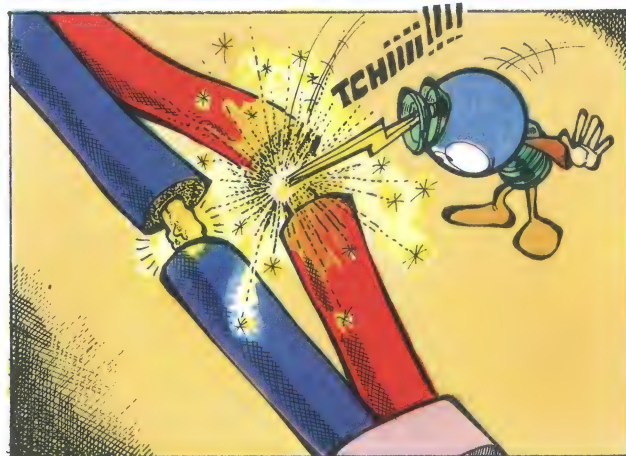
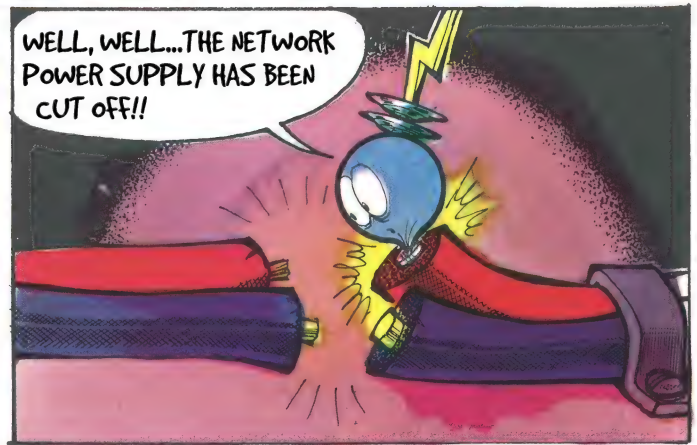
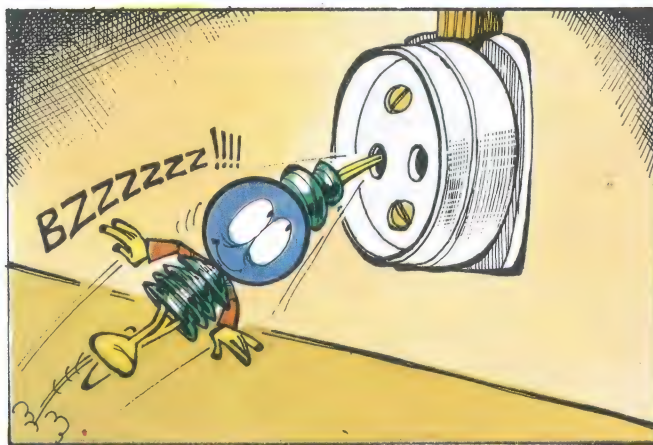
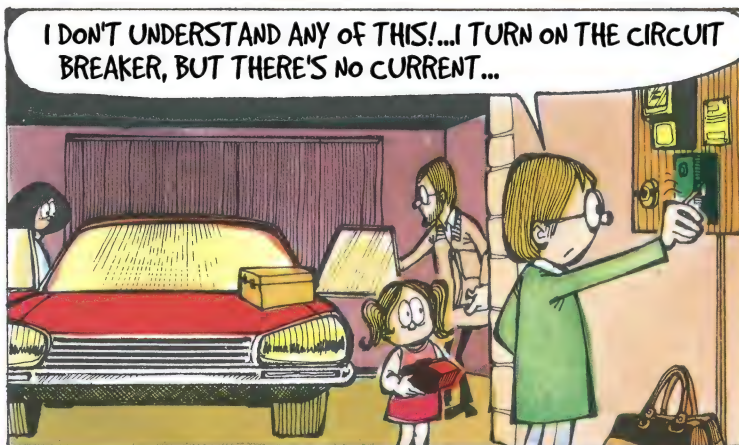


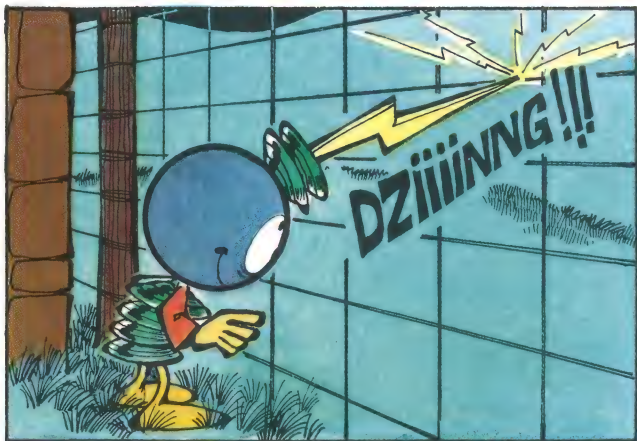
NOTHING! ABSOLUTELY NOTHING, MR. RUBBLE!!...



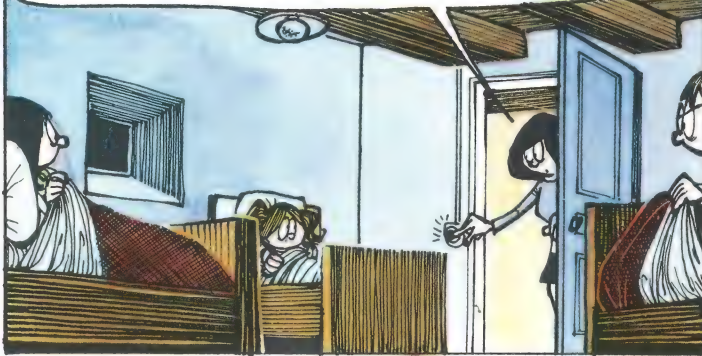
AAAAAGGGGGRRRR!!!...







SLEEP TIGHT! THE NIGHT WILL BE SHORT. WE'LL LEAVE TOMORROW! GOOD NIGHT, KIDS!!



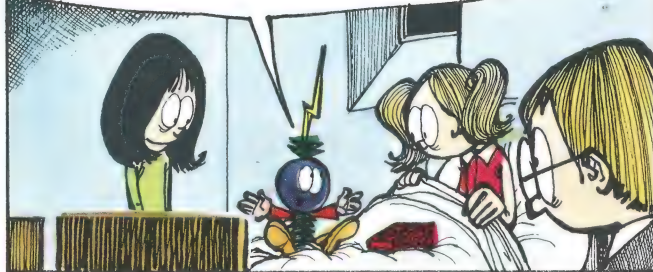
IT'S OKAY! WE'VE DISTRACTED THEM! IT WAS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY THAT I RECOVER CERTAIN DOCUMENTS! I'LL GET RID OF THE REST!



AGNES, WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL WITH THE CHILDREN. RUBBLE'S MEN ARE ON OUR TAILS, AND I KNOW THEY WON'T HESITATE... WE HAVE TO RUN! I'LL CALL DENNIS! HE HAS AN OLD HOUSE THAT NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT!...



...I CAUSED AN ELECTRIC SHOCK, AND THEY RAN AWAY LIKE LITTLE BUNNIES! THEY WERE THE ONES WHO HAD CUT THE WIRES TO THE POWER SUPPLY NETWORK!

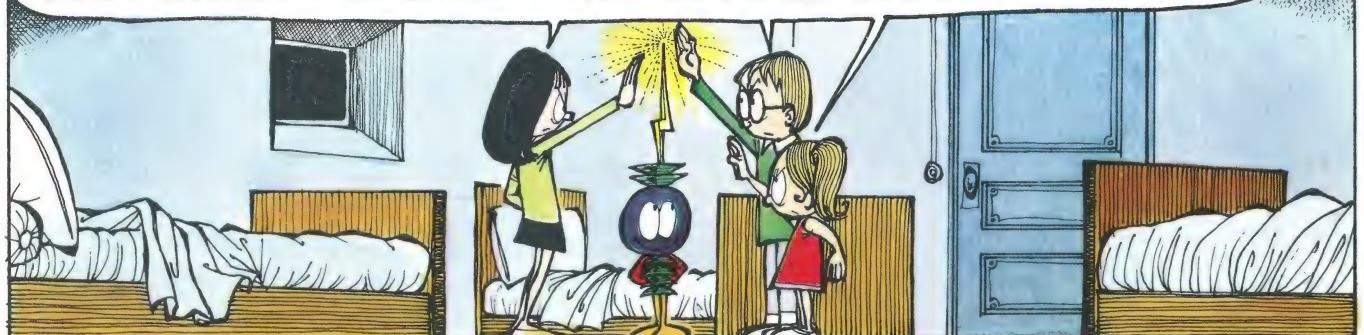


YOU'RE FANTASTIC, ZELTRON!!

WELL, WE KNOW THAT OUR FATHER IS IN DANGER AND THAT, DISTRACTED AS HE IS, HE WILL FALL INTO THE FIRST TRAP SET...



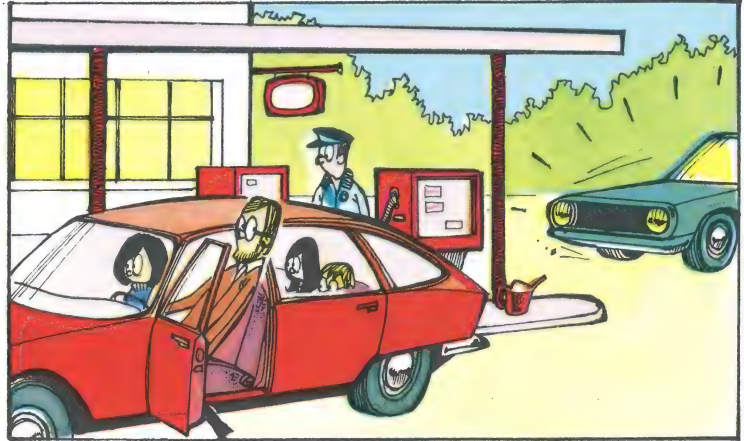
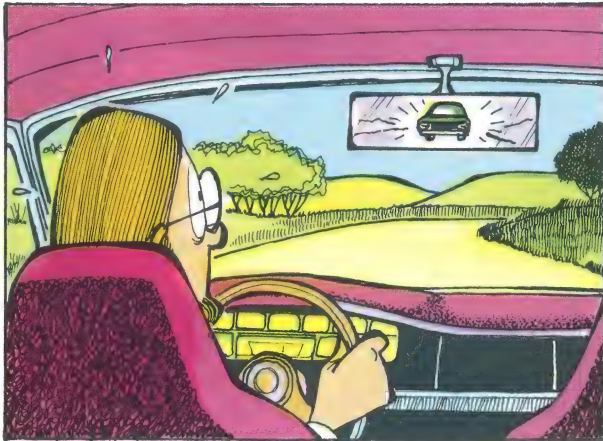
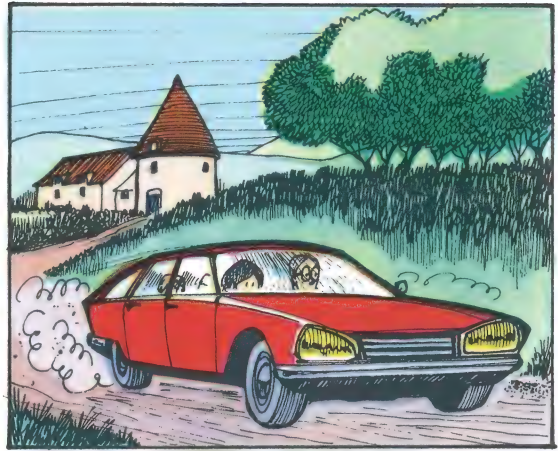
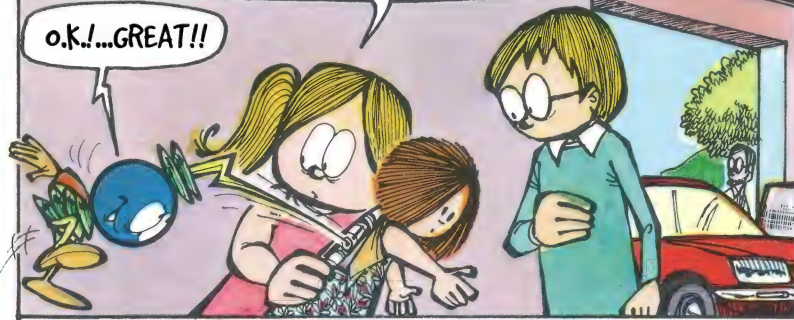
CROSS MY HEART AND PRAY TO ZELTRON, WE'LL MAKE SURE OUR FATHER'S ENEMIES WILL SOON BE GONE!!



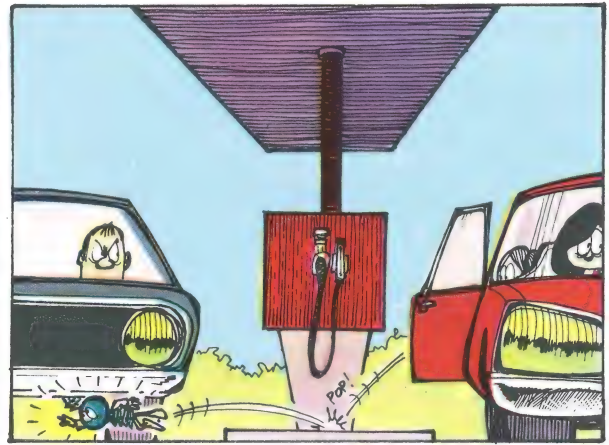
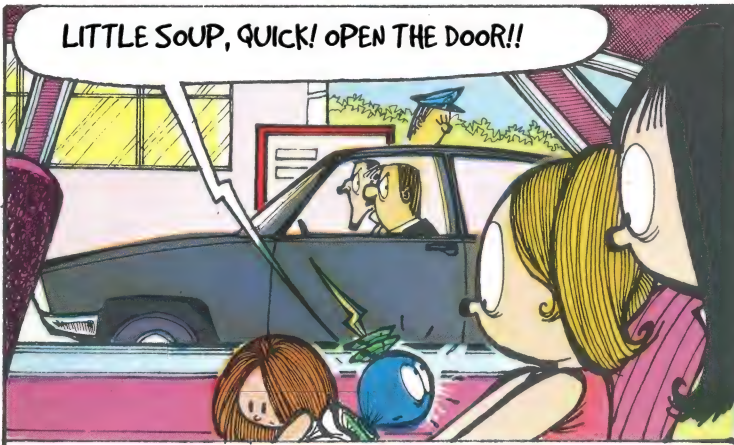
THE NEXT MORNING...

ZELTRON! QUICK! HIDE INSIDE THE BATTERIES
IN MY DOLL!... IT WILL BE MUCH FASTER!!

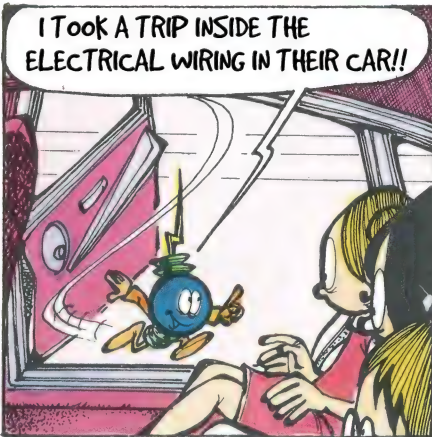
O.K.!...GREAT!!



LITTLE SOUP, QUICK! OPEN THE DOOR!!



I TOOK A TRIP INSIDE THE
ELECTRICAL WIRING IN THEIR CAR!!

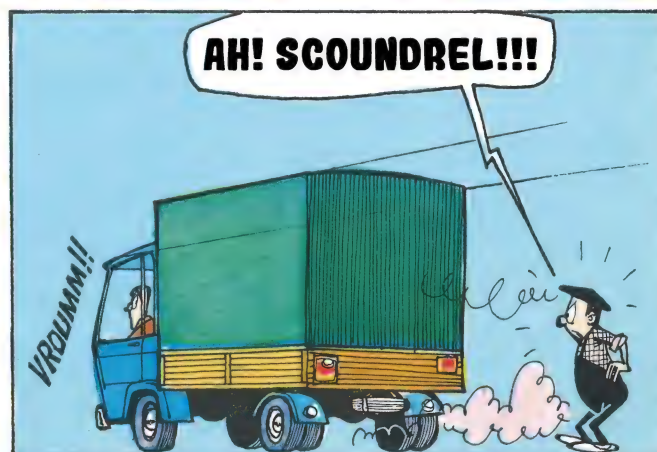
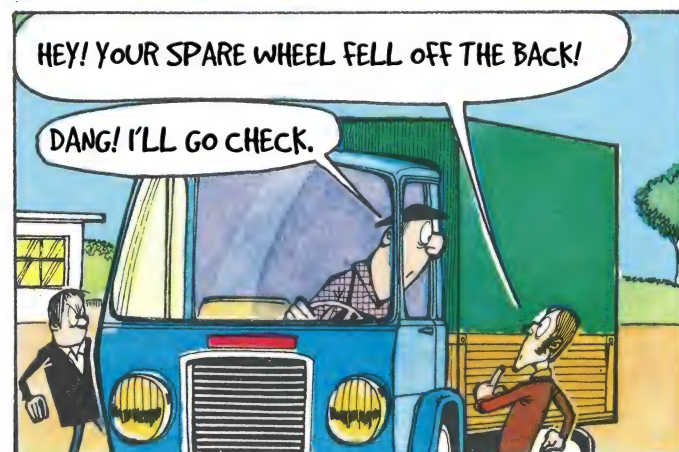
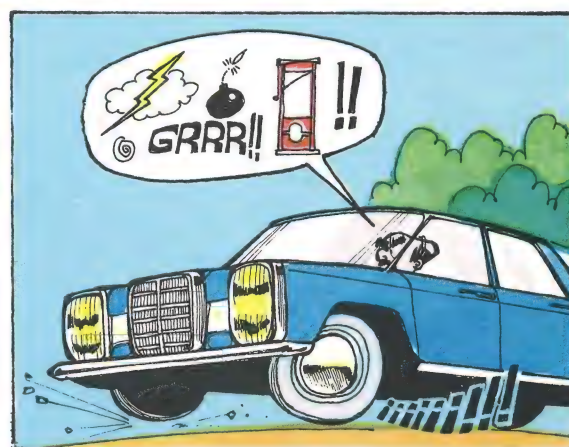
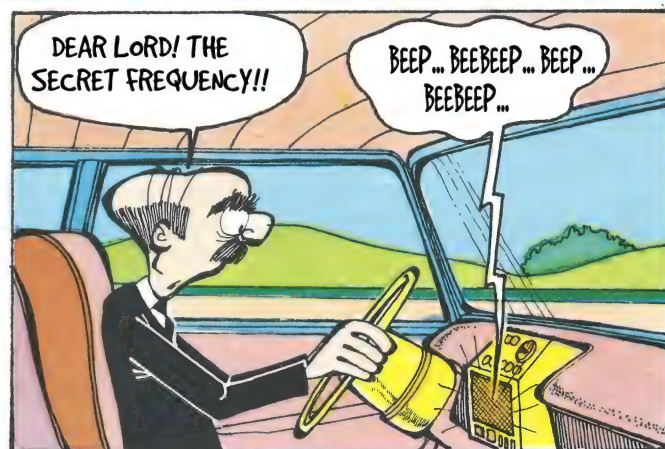


I DISCONNECTED THE POWER
SUPPLY OF THE COOLER!!

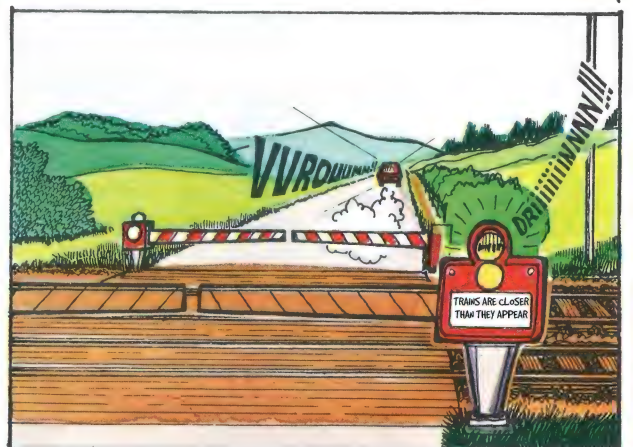
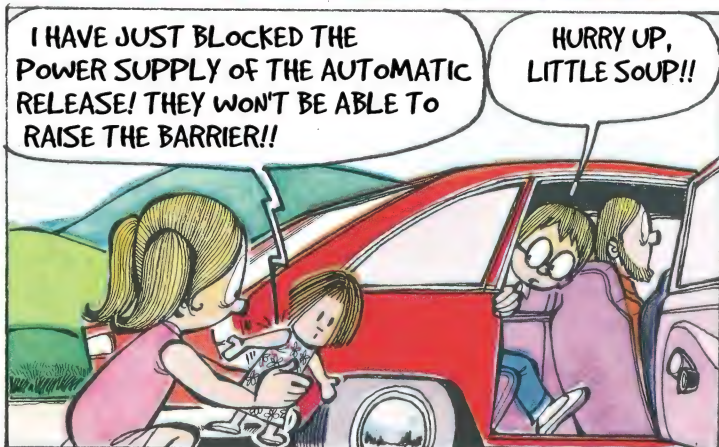
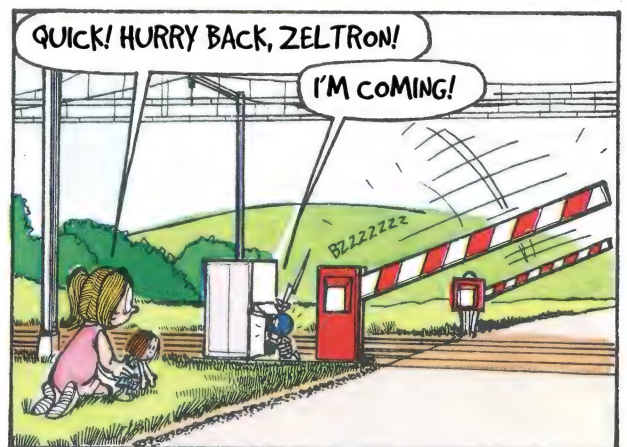
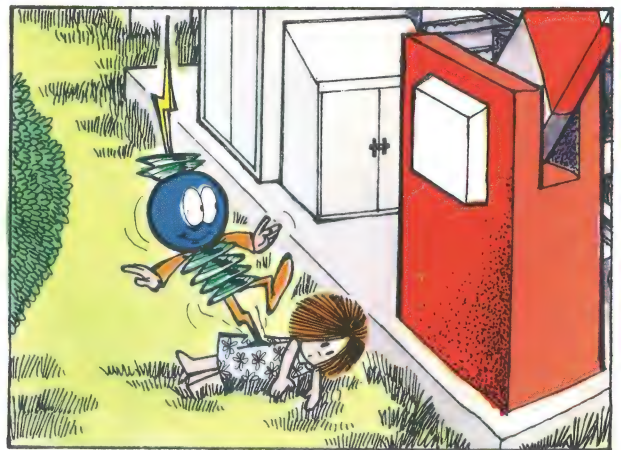
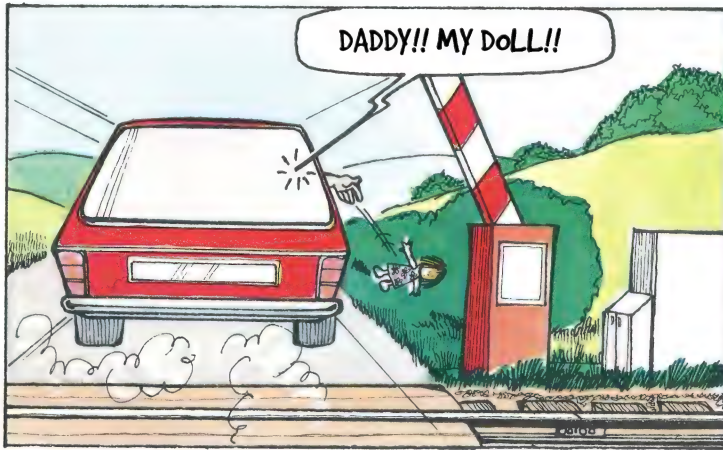
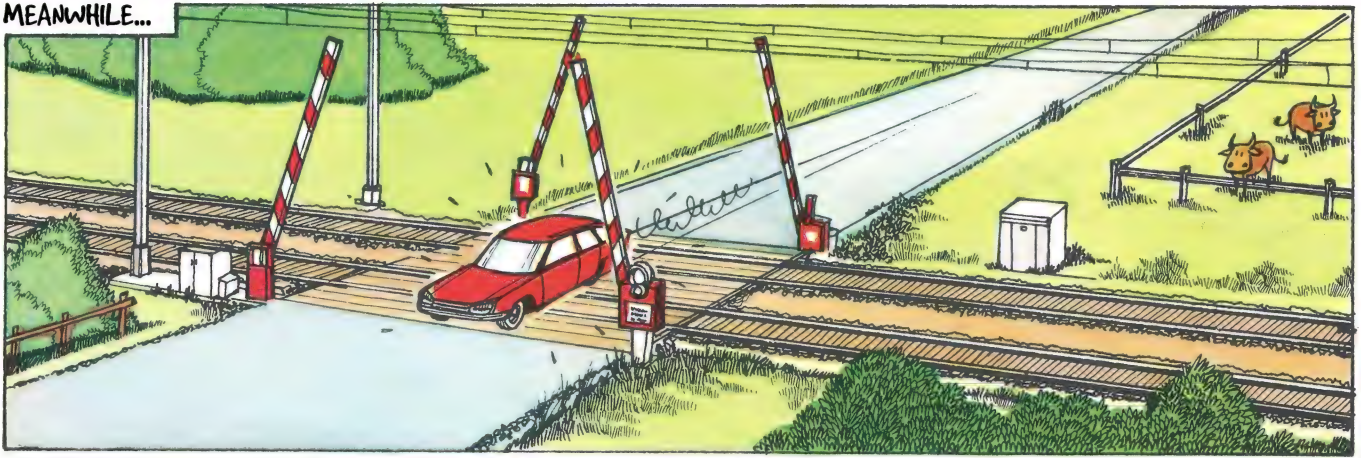


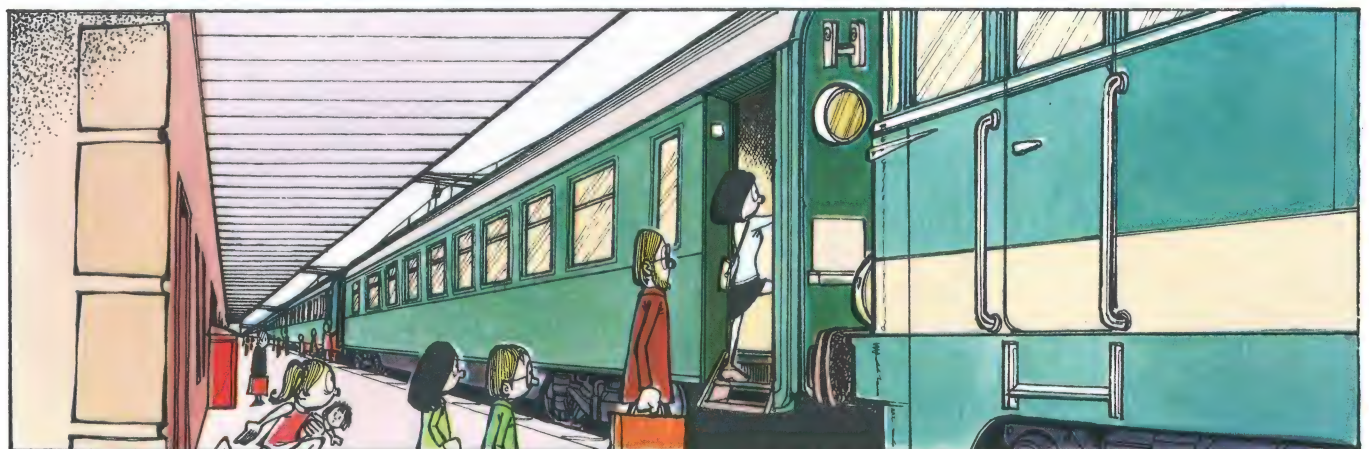
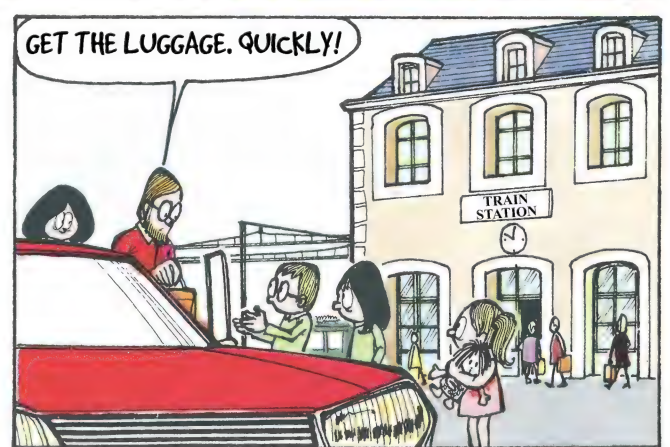
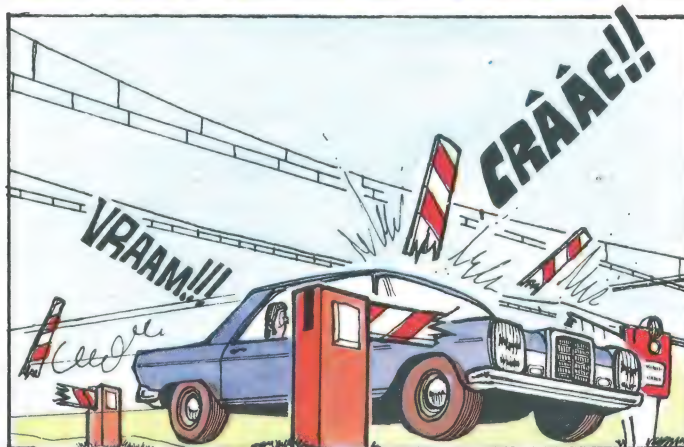
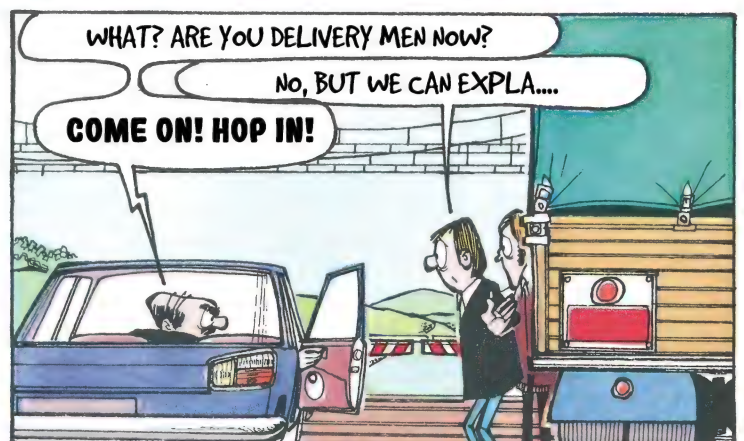
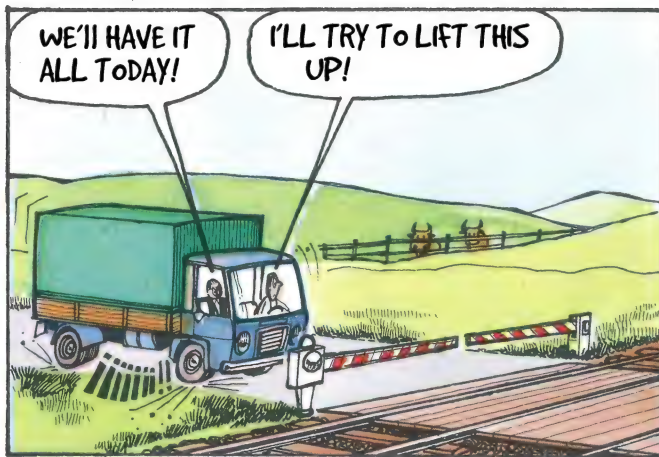
THEY WON'T BE GOING FAR!...

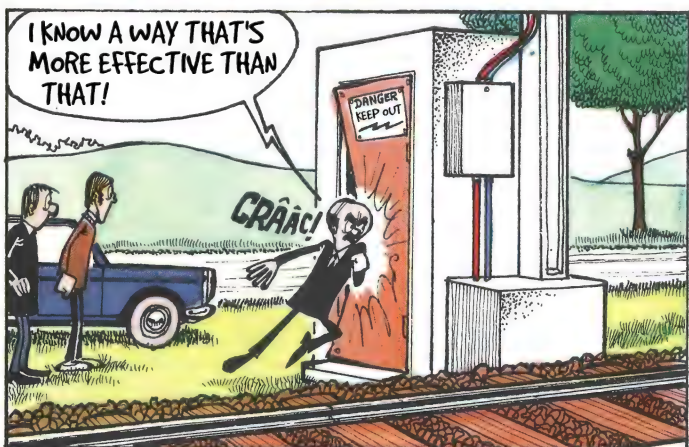
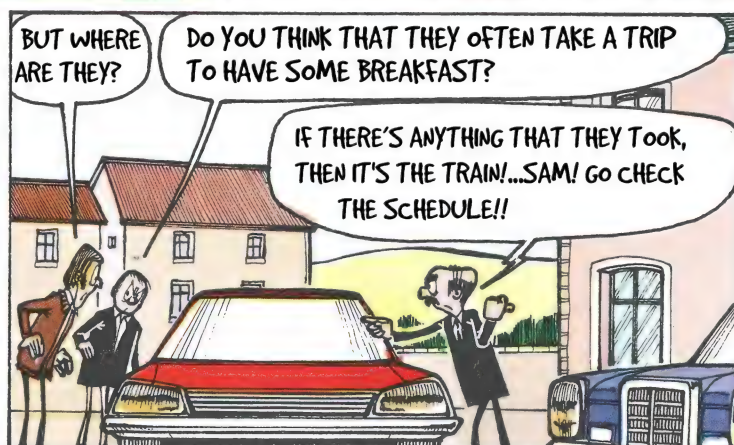
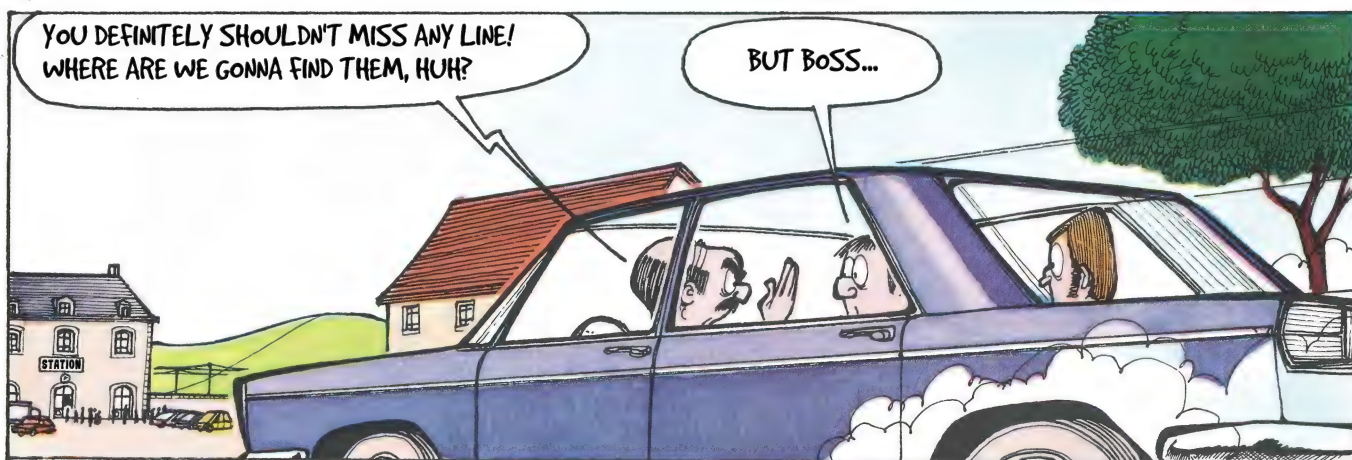


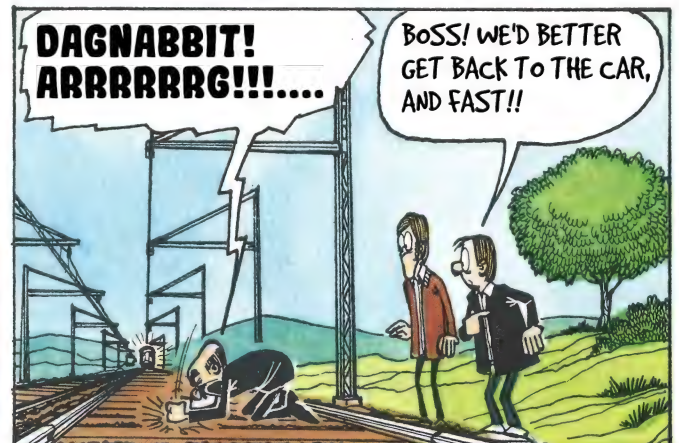
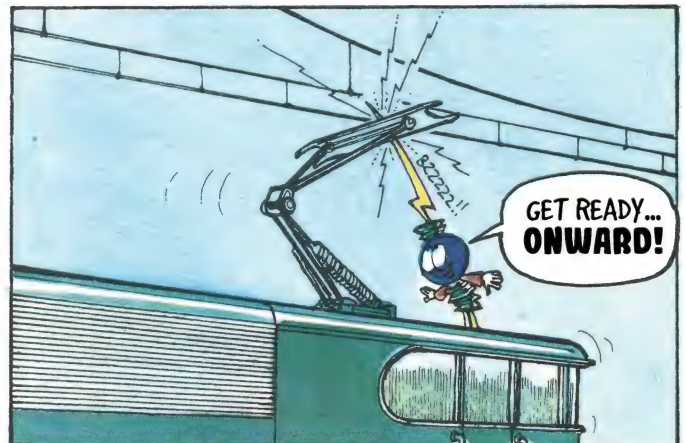
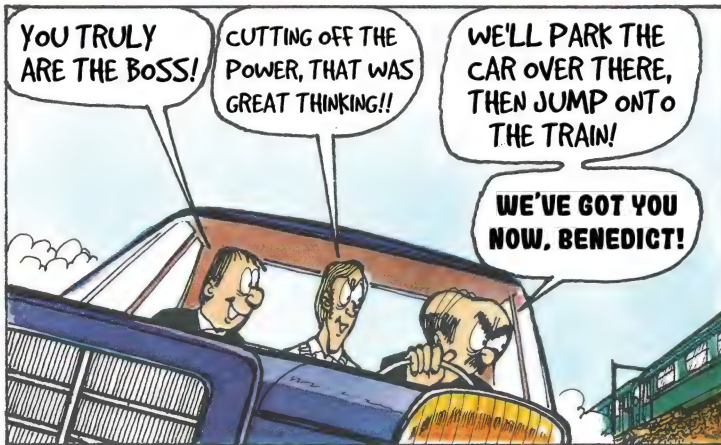
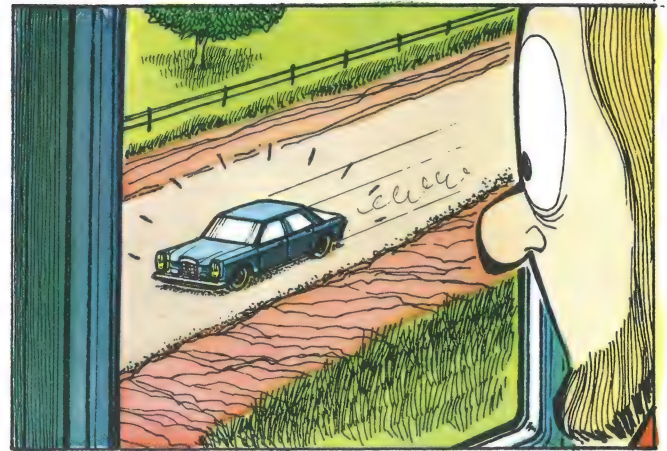


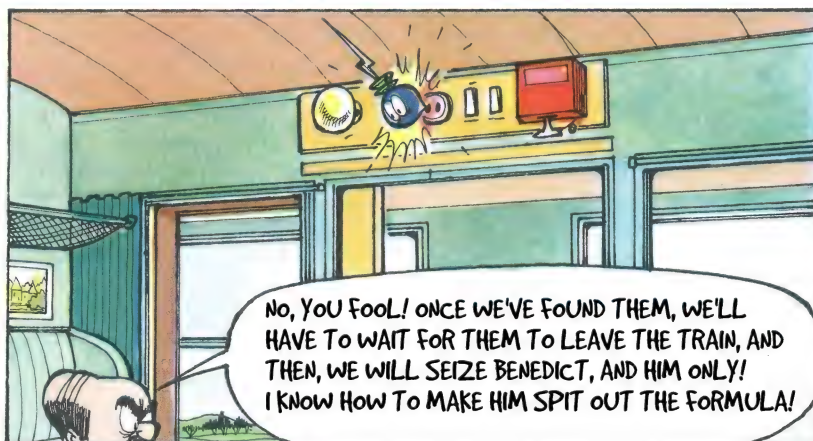
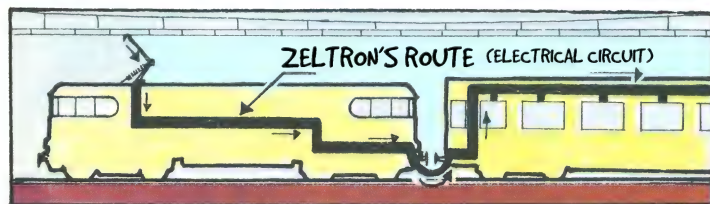
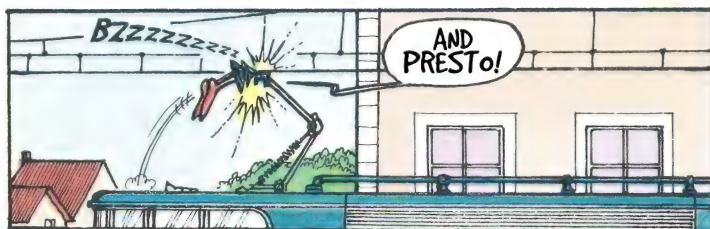
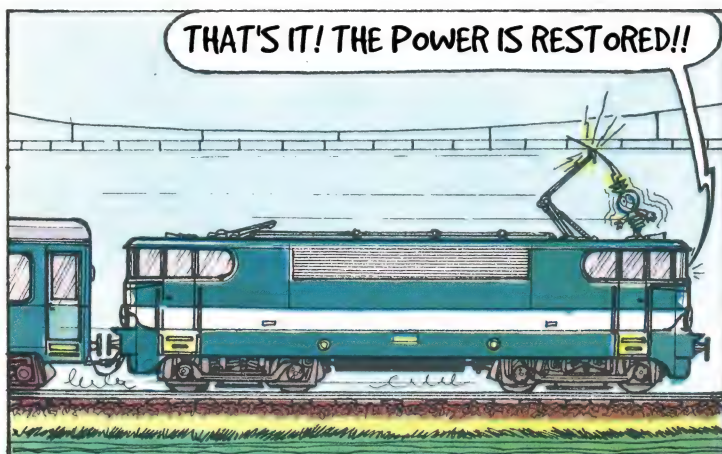
MEANWHILE...

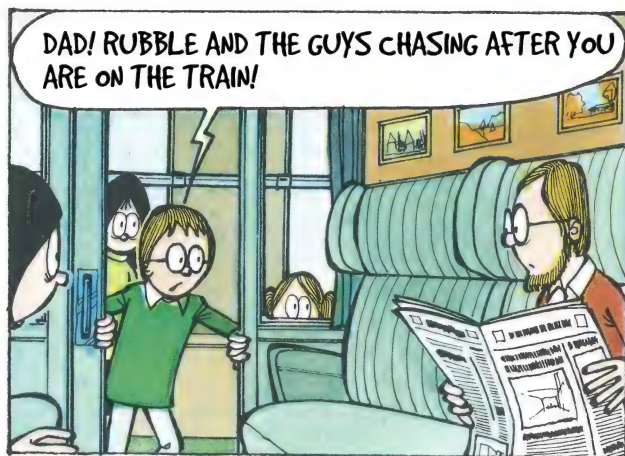












DAD! RUBBLE AND THE GUYS CHASING AFTER YOU ARE ON THE TRAIN!



THIS CAN'T BE POSSIBLE!!

BUT IT IS! WE SAW THEM!!!

QUICK, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!



LISTEN, AGNES...WE CAN'T GET OFF WHILE THE TRAIN IS IN MOTION!!!

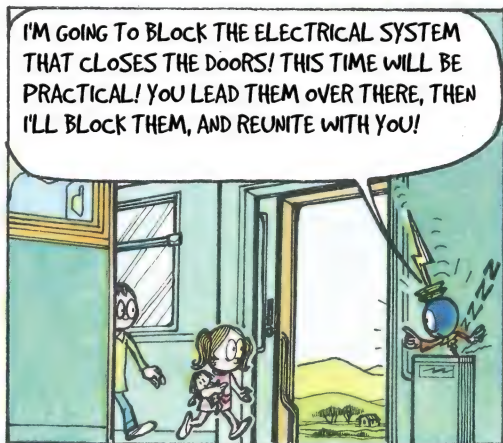
THEN...WE'LL JUST MAKE IT STOP!!



DID THE TRAIN STOP?

IT LOOKS LIKE IT...

HURRY UP AND GET BACK TO THE HEAD OF THE TRAIN, BEFORE THEY GET AWAY FROM US!!



I'M GOING TO BLOCK THE ELECTRICAL SYSTEM THAT CLOSES THE DOORS! THIS TIME WILL BE PRACTICAL! YOU LEAD THEM OVER THERE, THEN I'LL BLOCK THEM, AND REUNITE WITH YOU!



OH! LOOK! QUICK!!

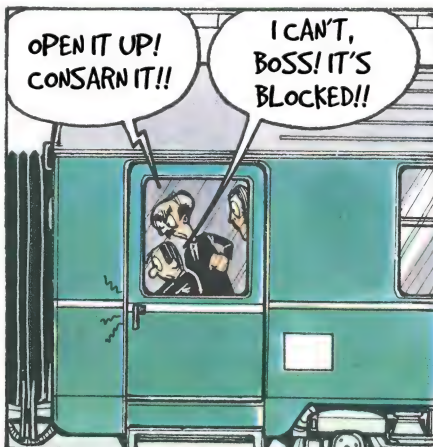
DANG IT!



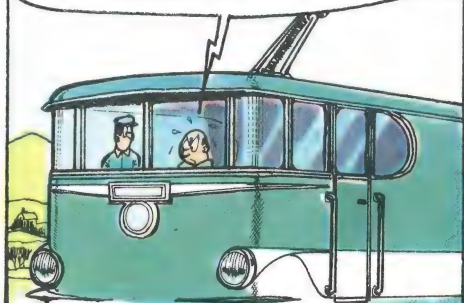
TCHIIIIIIII!!

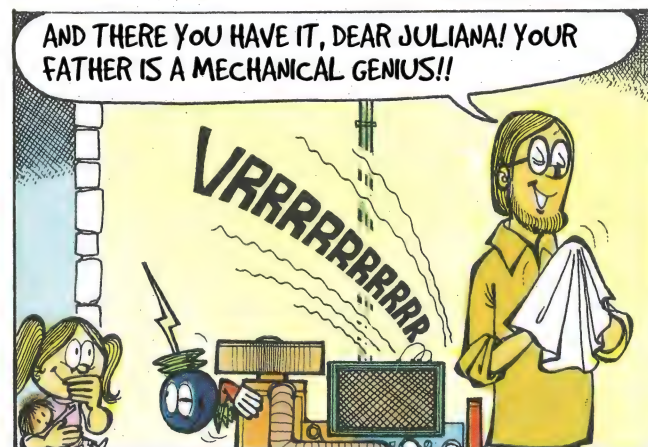
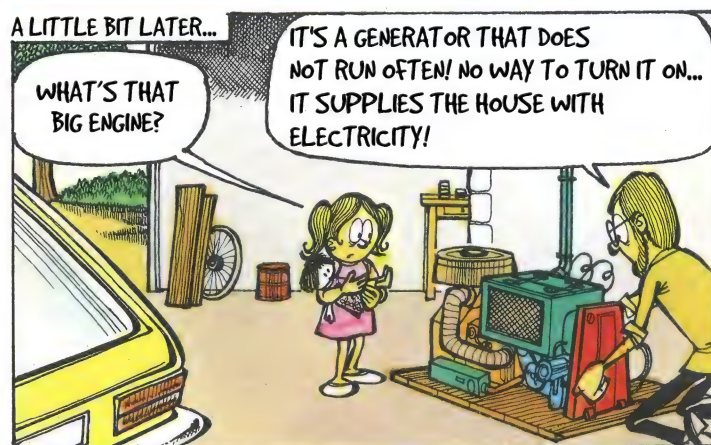
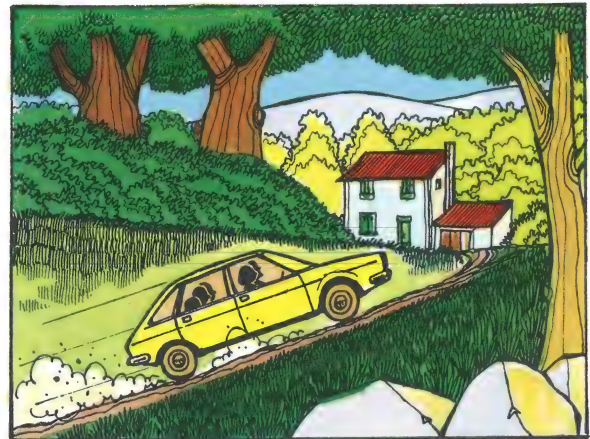
OPEN IT UP! CONSARN IT!!

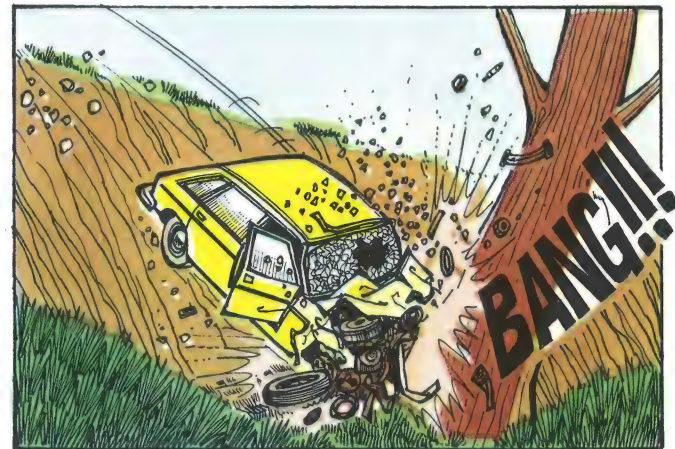
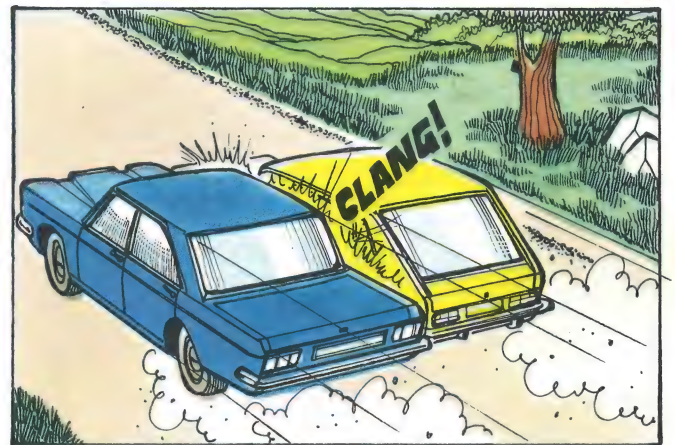
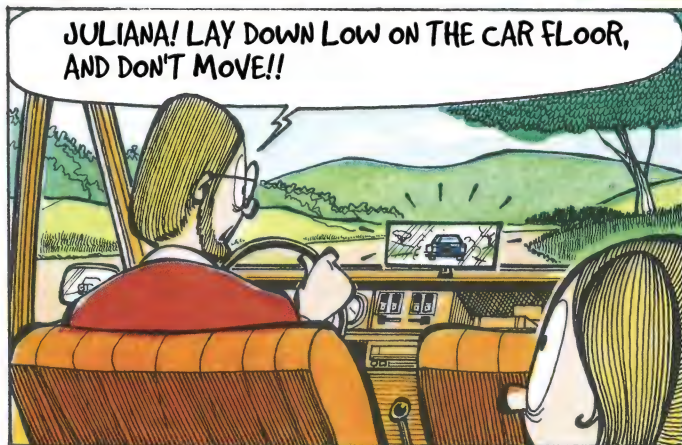
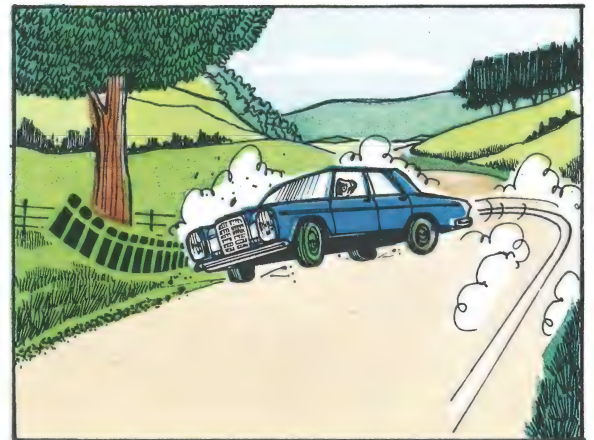
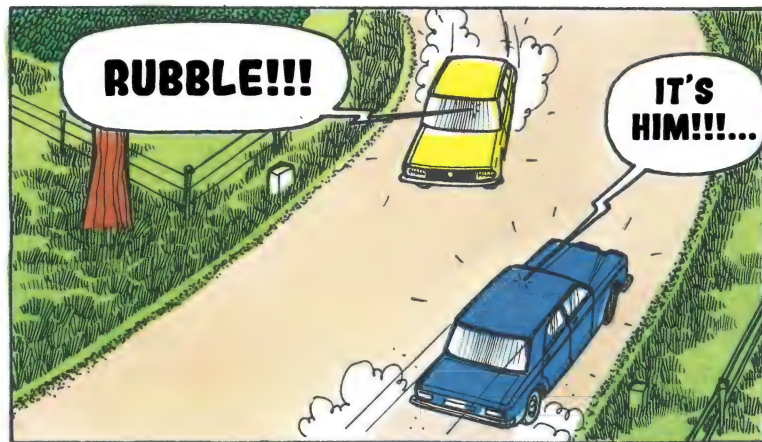
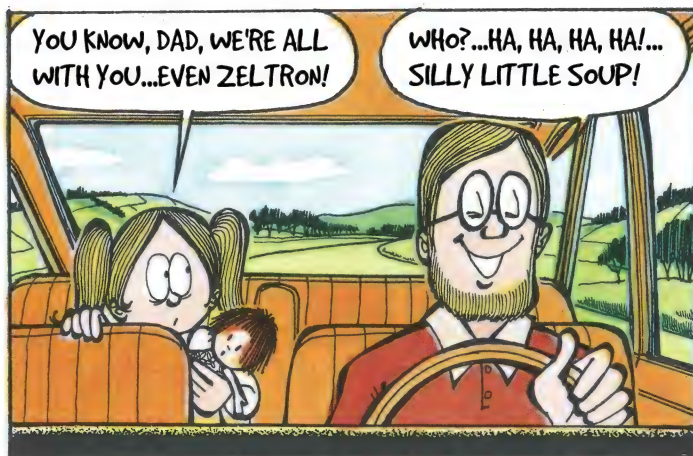
I CAN'T, BOSS! IT'S BLOCKED!!

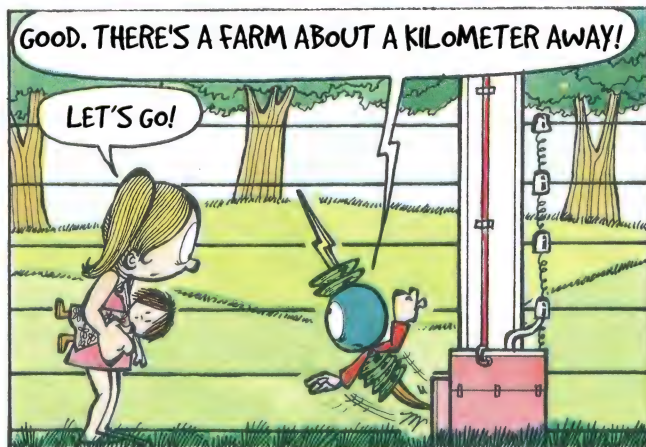
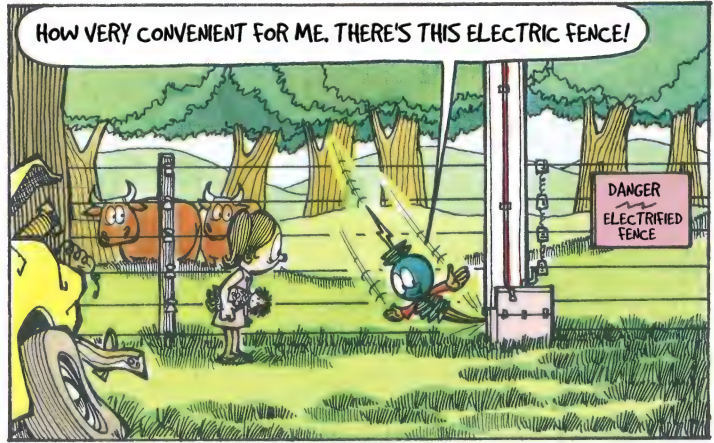
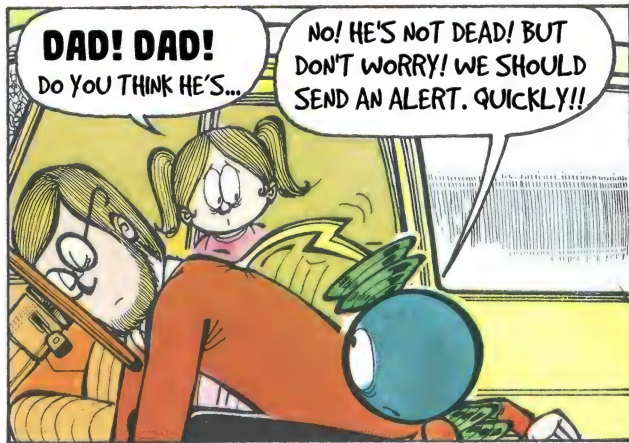
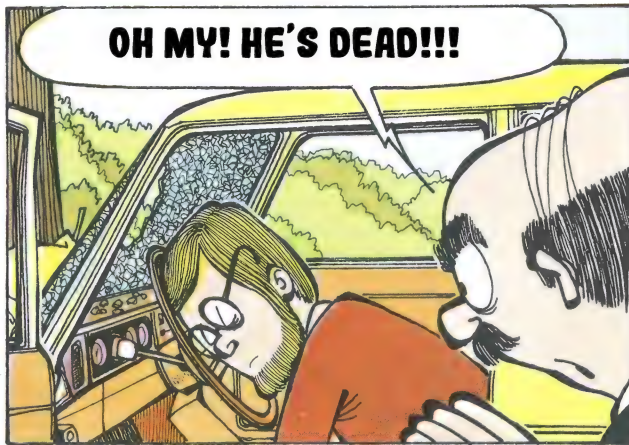
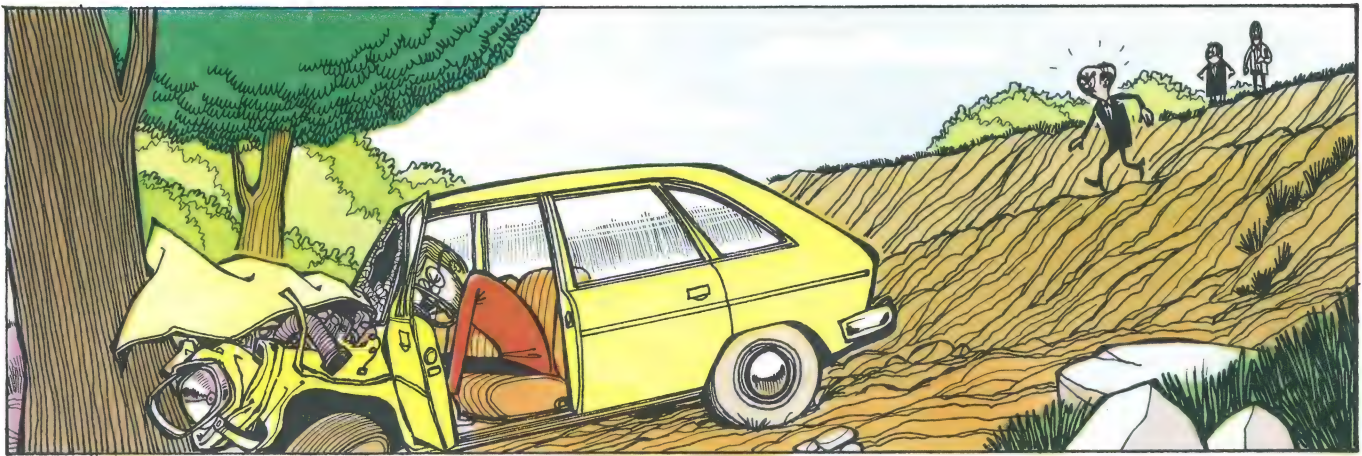


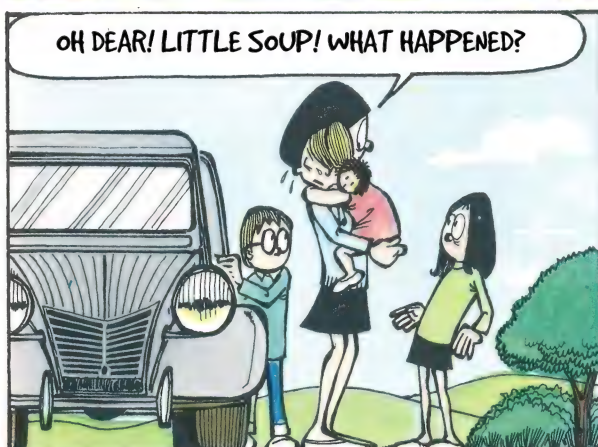
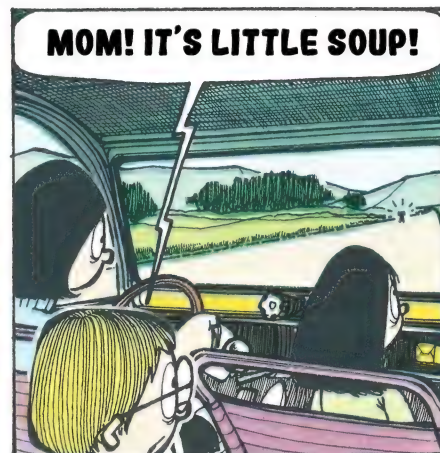
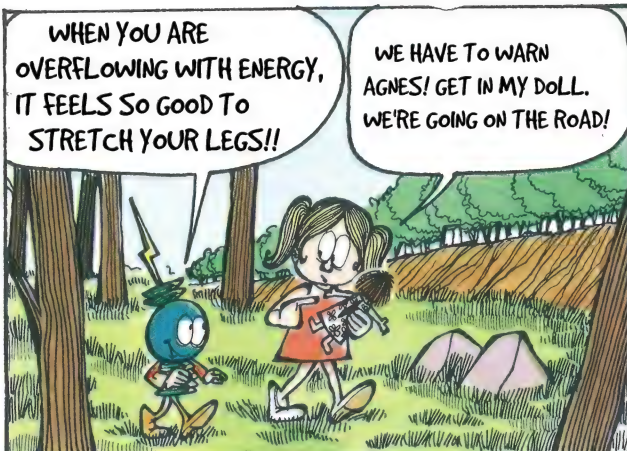
THE ALARM SIGNAL...I'VE JUST LOST COMPLETE CONTROL OF THE DOORS!... WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS DARN MACHINE?!!...

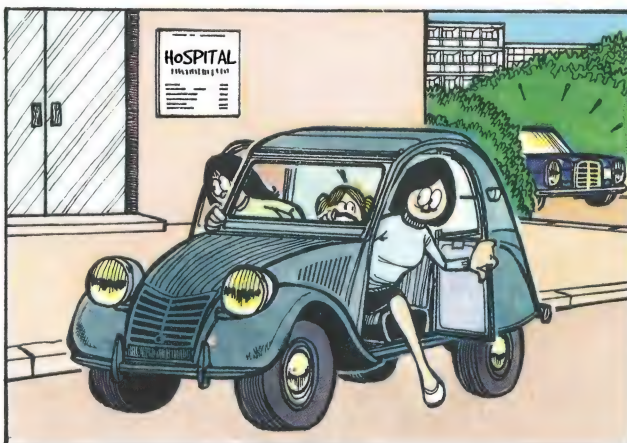
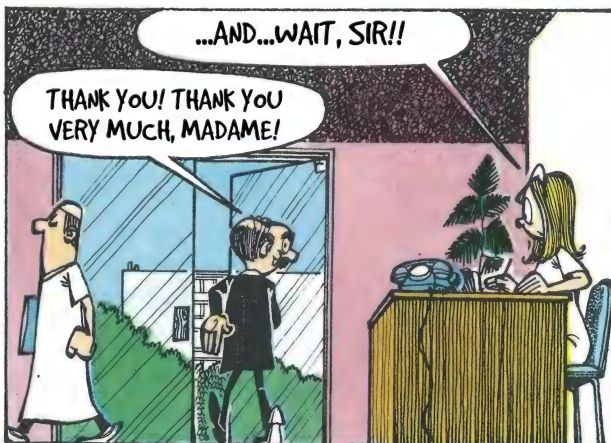
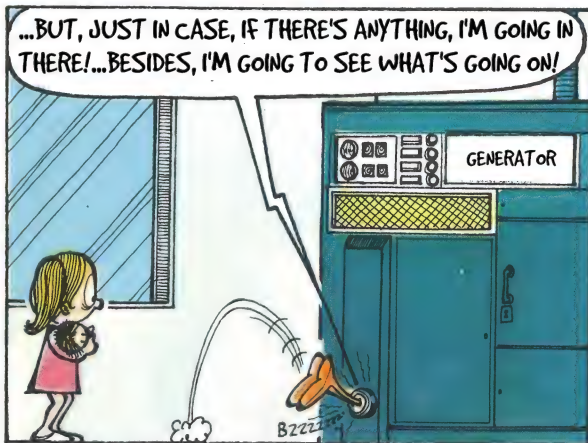
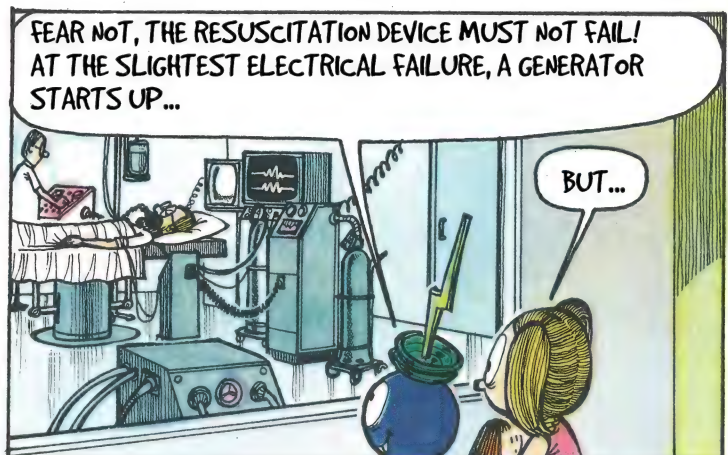




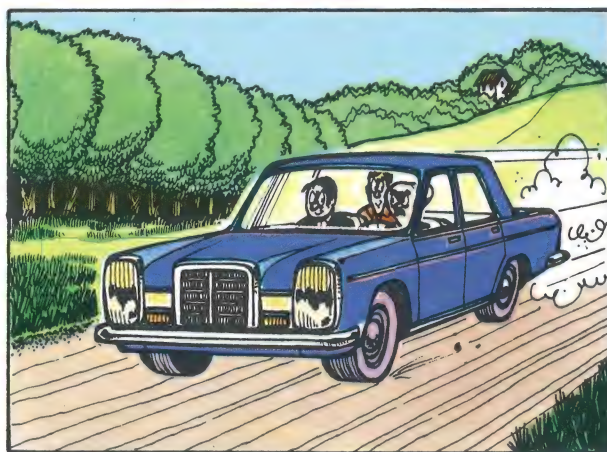
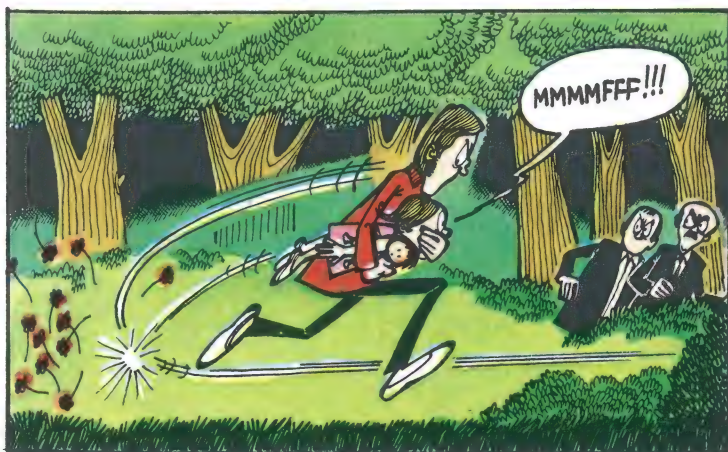
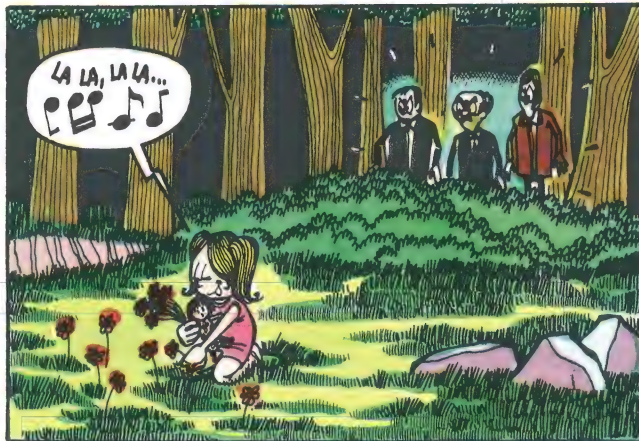
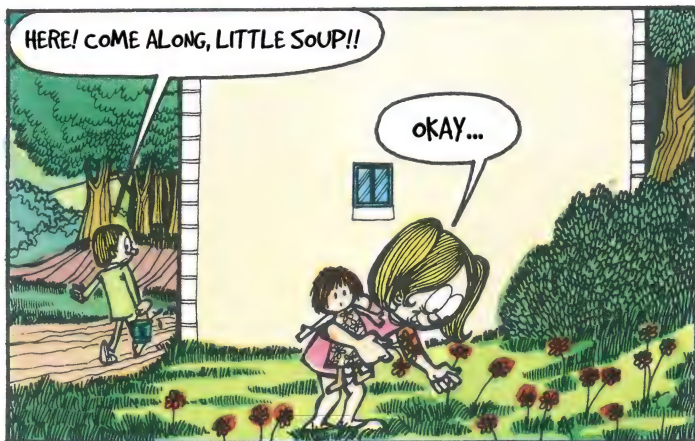
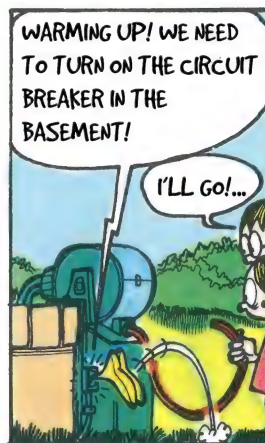
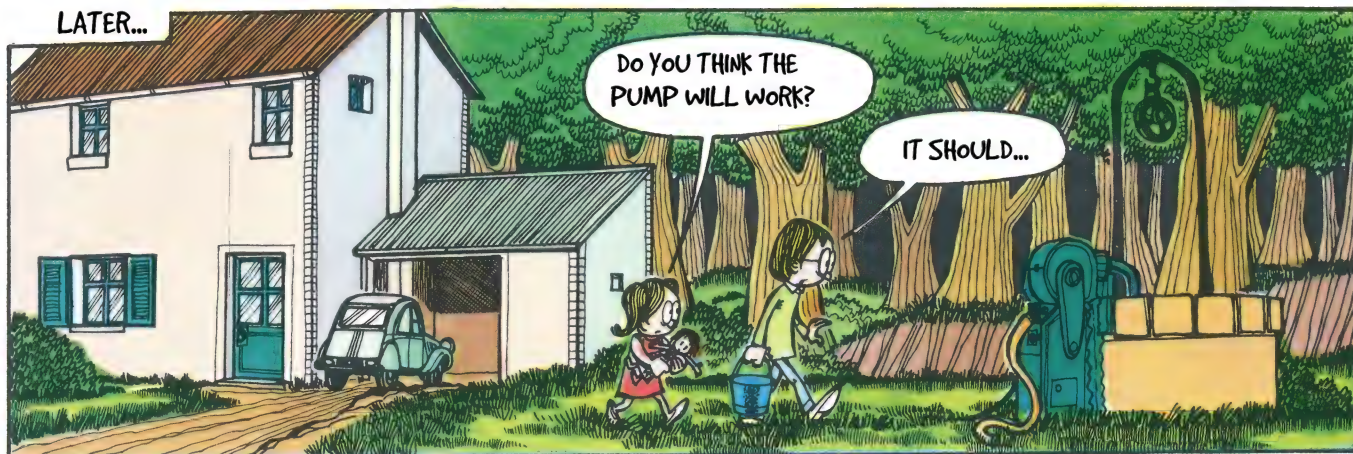


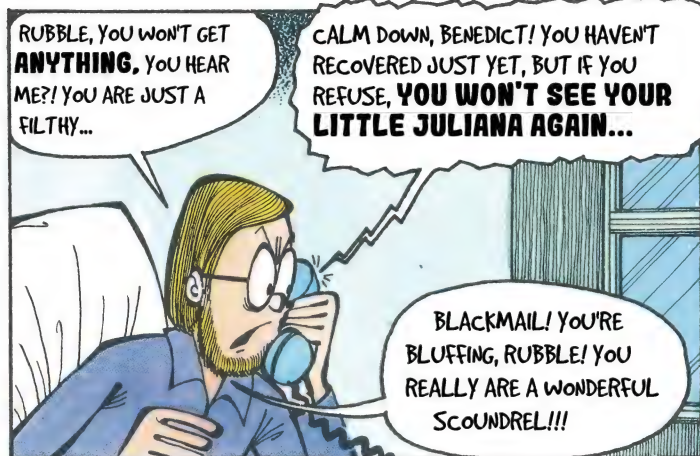


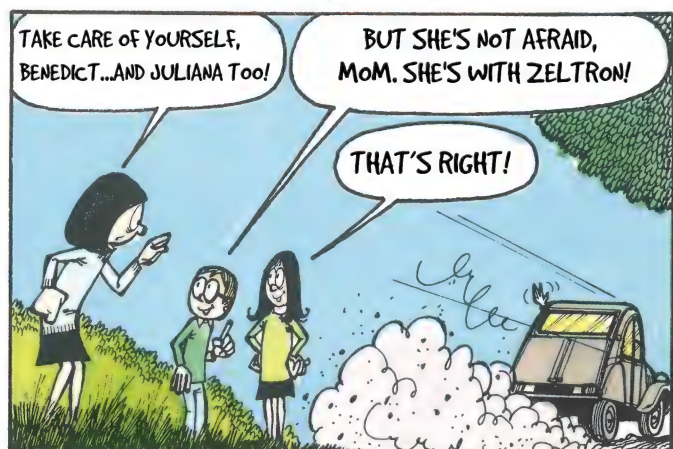
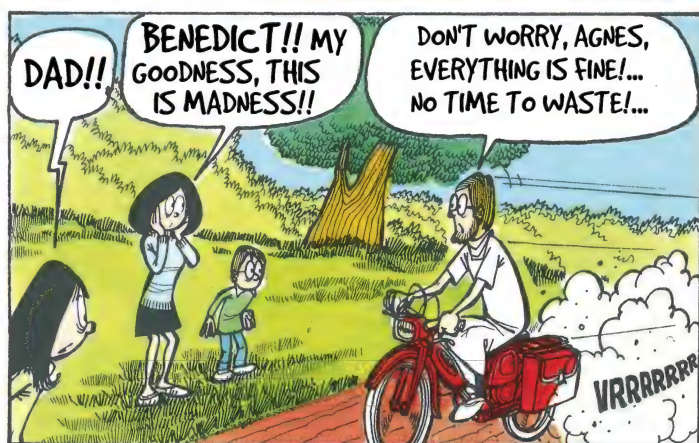
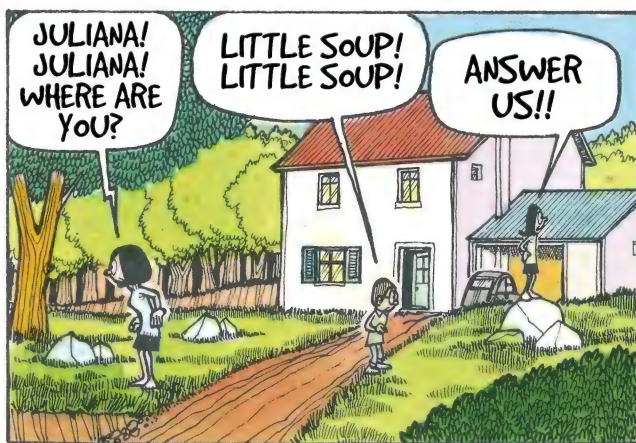
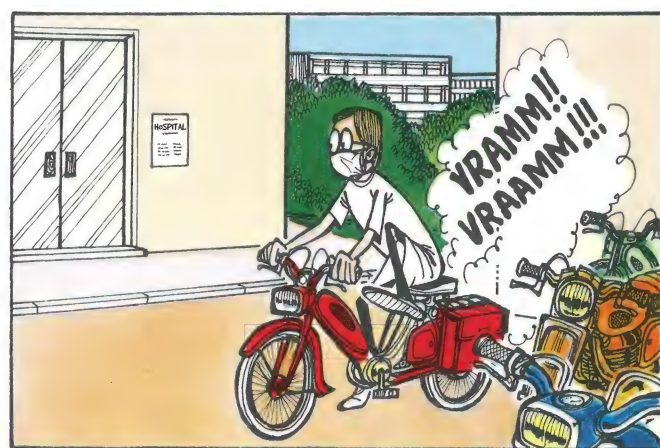
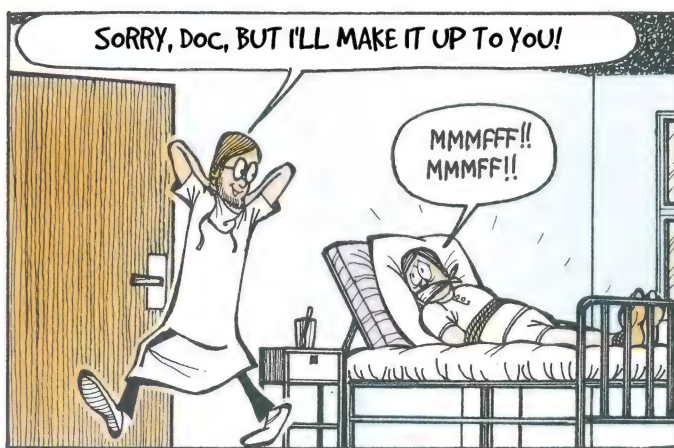
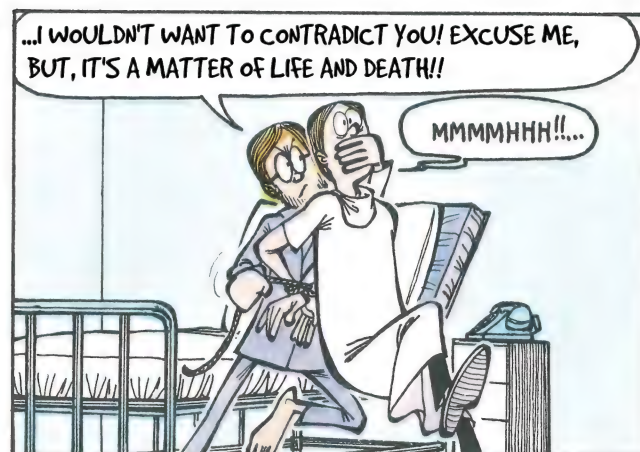




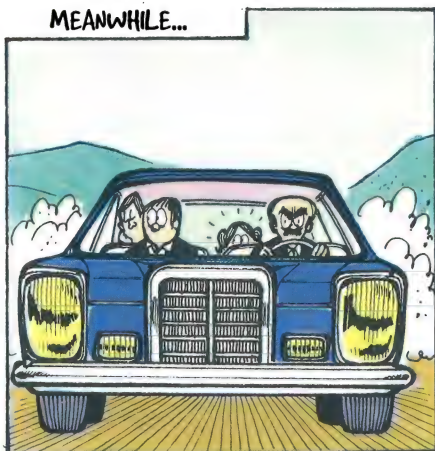
LATER...



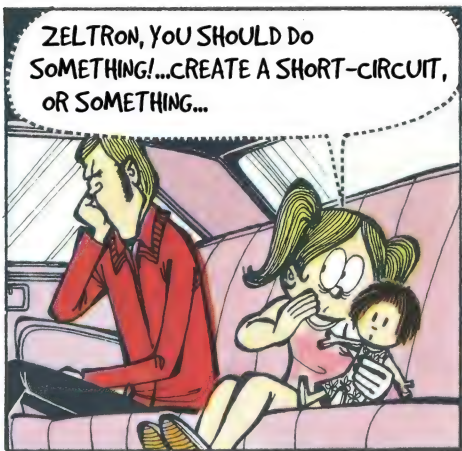




MEANWHILE...



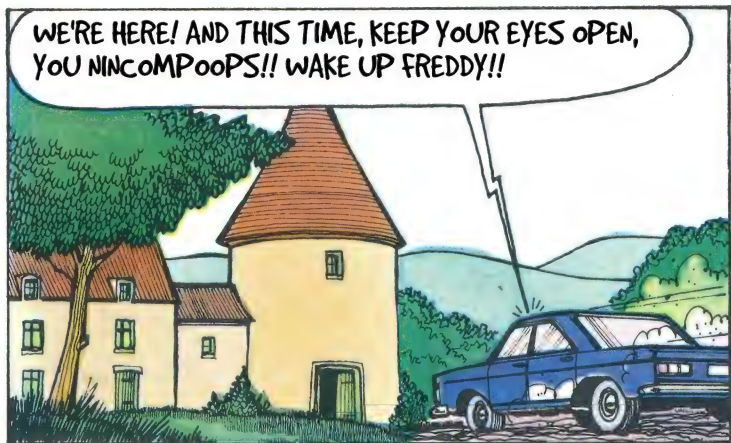
ZELTRON, YOU SHOULD DO SOMETHING!...CREATE A SHORT-CIRCUIT, OR SOMETHING...



I WOULDN'T THINK ABOUT IT, LITTLE SOUP! WE'RE MOVING AT A HIGH SPEED! OUR OWN LIVES WOULD BE IN DANGER, NOT TO MENTION THOSE OF THOSE THREE FANATICS...

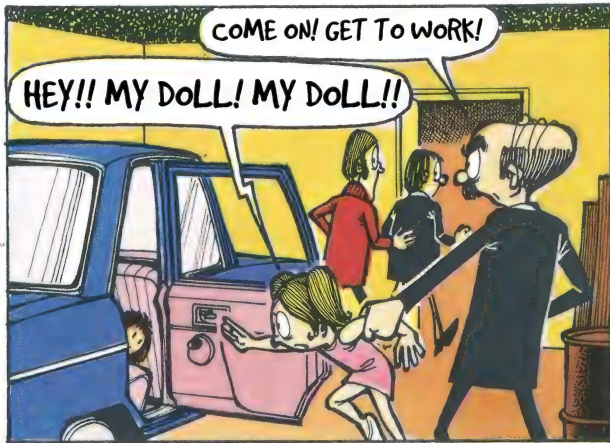


WE'RE HERE! AND THIS TIME, KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN, YOU NINCOMPPOOPS!! WAKE UP FREDDY!!

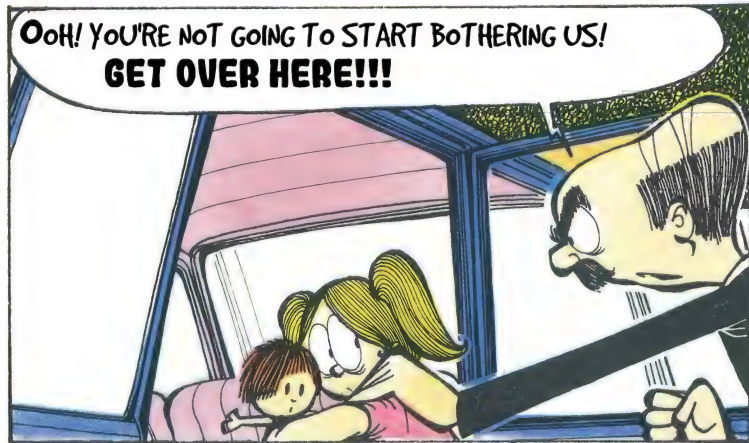


COME ON! GET TO WORK!

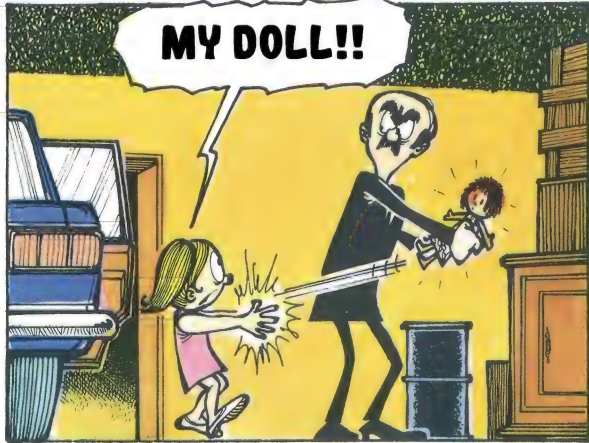
HEY!! MY DOLL! MY DOLL!!



Ooh! YOU'RE NOT GOING TO START BOTHERING US! GET OVER HERE!!!



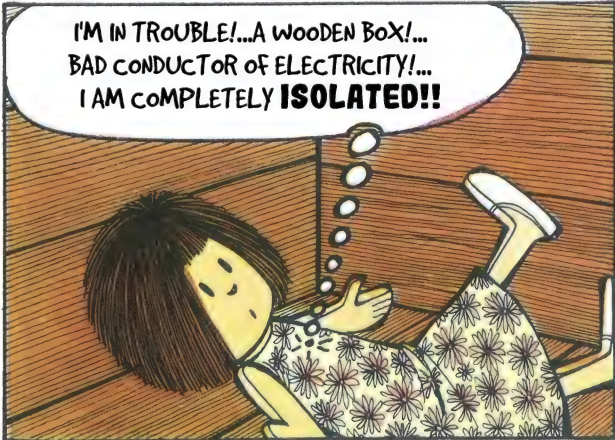
MY DOLL!!

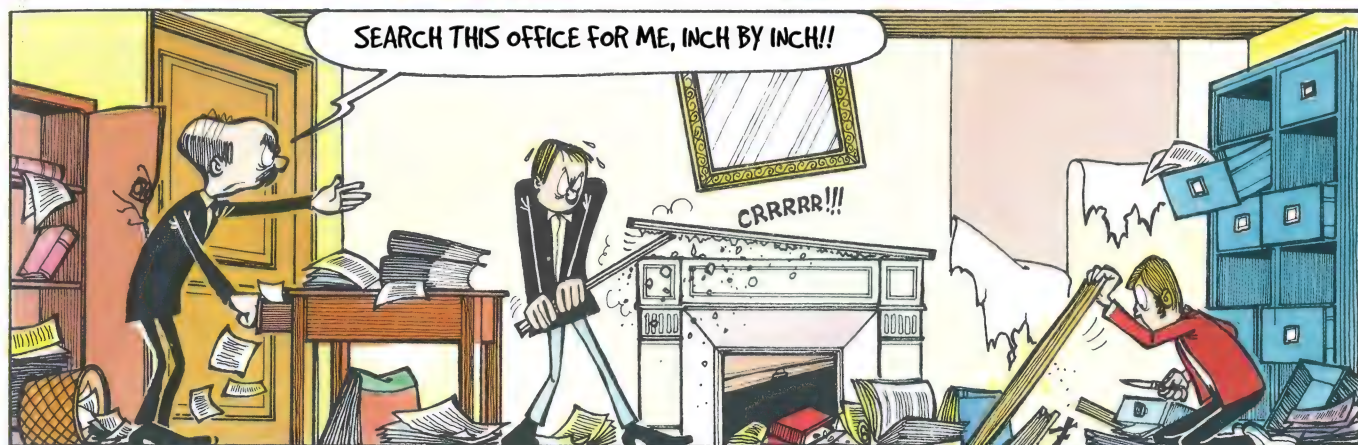


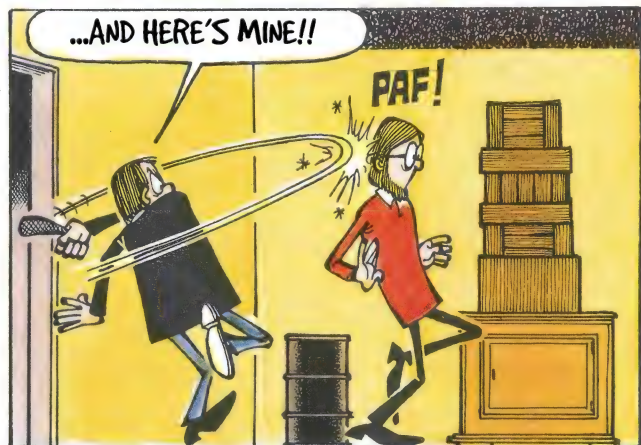
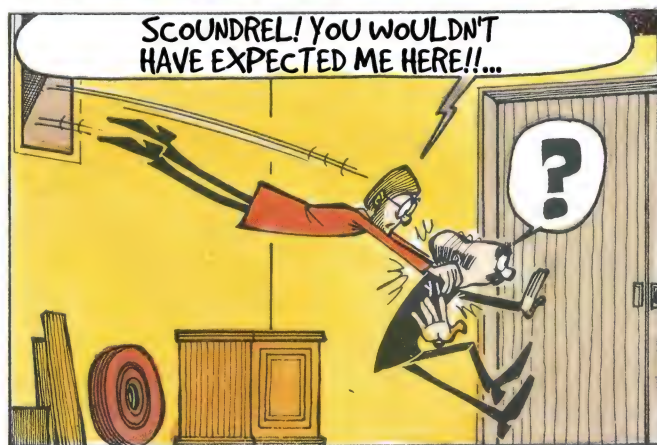
THERE! THIS IS HOW I TREAT YOUR DOLL!!

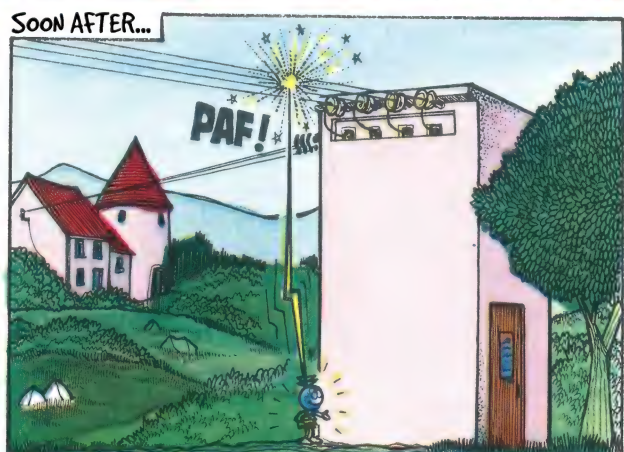
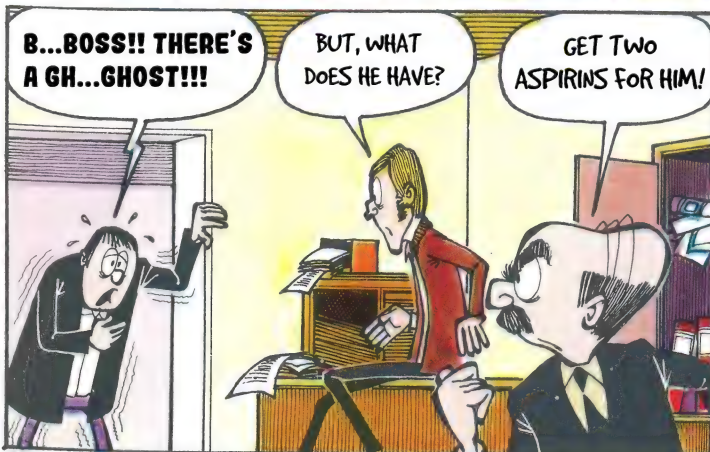
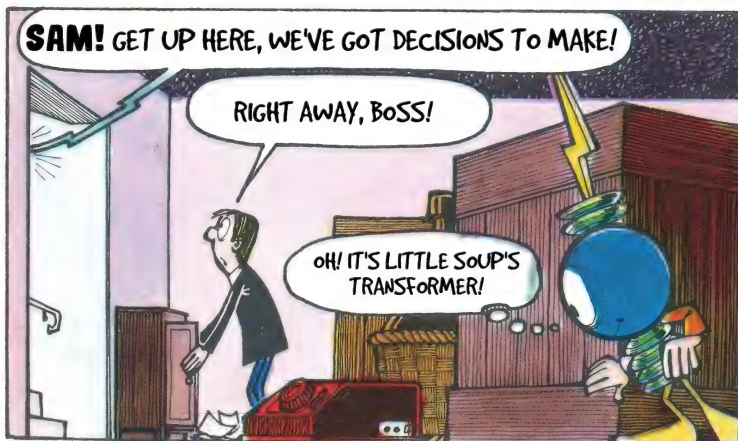
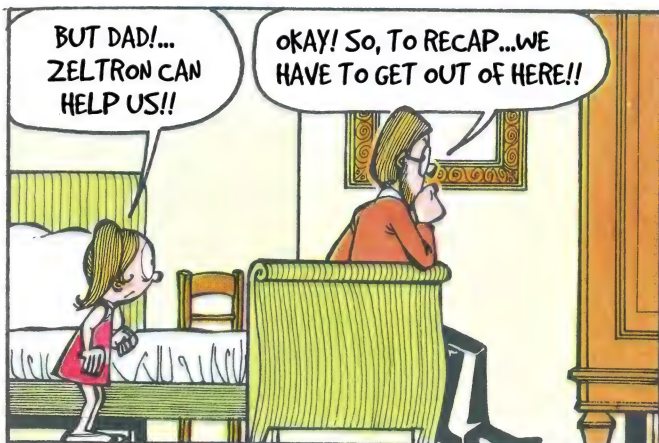
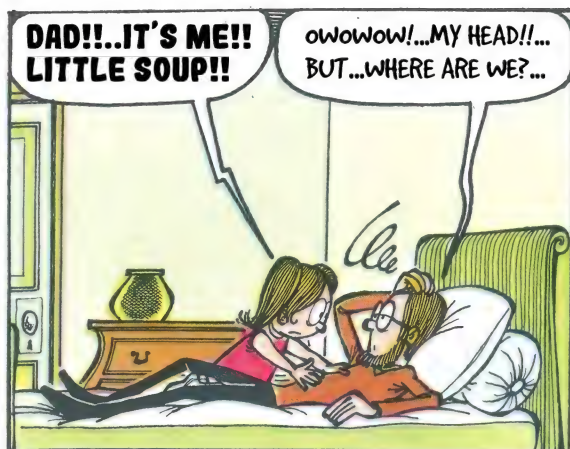


I'M IN TROUBLE!...A WOODEN BOX!... BAD CONDUCTOR OF ELECTRICITY!... I AM COMPLETELY ISOLATED!!

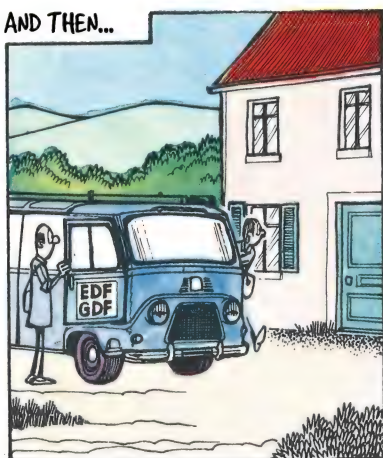








AND THEN...



MY FRIEND BENEDICT
LENT ME HIS
COUNTRY HOUSE
FOR A FEW DAYS...



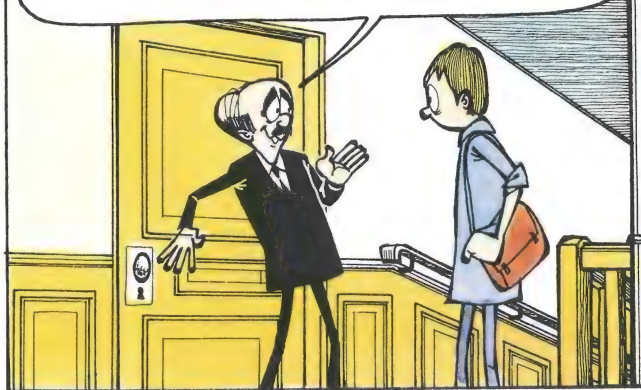
IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S
COMING FROM YOUR
PLACE! THE WHOLE
SECTOR IS CUT OFF!!



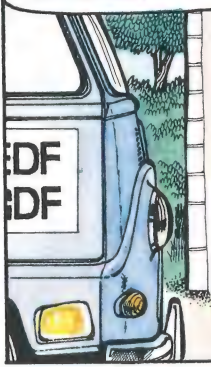
HEY, JOJO, START FROM THE COUNTERS,
AND FOLLOW SYSTEMATICALLY! I'LL
GO CHECK THE TOP!



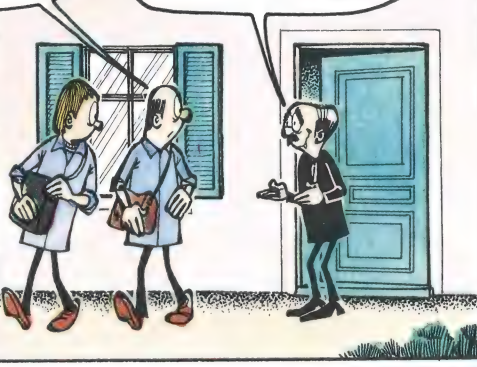
THIS ROOM IS LOCKED! I DON'T HAVE THE KEY!



WELL, WE FOUND NOTHING!
EXCUSE US!



BUT OF COURSE,
OF COURSE!!



PHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE!



SAM! FREDDY!!
COME ON! GET
TO WORK!!



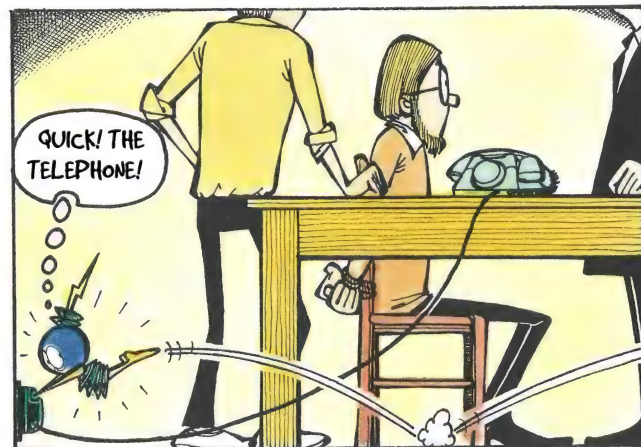
YOUR JOKES HAVE GONE ON LONG ENOUGH, BENEDICT, MY BOY!
NOW, YOU'VE GOING TO GIVE ME YOUR FORMULA, OR YOU'LL BE
DEAD MEAT, ALONG WITH YOUR DAUGHTER!



WELL SAID, BOSS!

YOU'RE THE
LAST OF THE
SCOUNDRELS!

QUICK! THE
TELEPHONE!



YOU WON'T GET TO KNOW
ANYTHING, RUBBLE!!



WHILE ESTABLISHING
CONTACT, I CONNECT
THIS DEVICE TO THE
SWITCHBOARD, WITHOUT
HAVING TO PICK UP THE
RECEIVER...

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHOW OFF? GO ON, FREDDY!!

LITTLE SOUP, I DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE... I SNEAKED THROUGH THE LOW-VOLTAGE CIRCUIT OF THE PHONE TO TRY ONE LAST CHANCE, BUT I HAVE LITTLE HOPE...

OH! ZELTRON, YOU'RE SO KIND!...

HELLO?...POLICE?...WE'RE GETTING A STRANGE COMMUNICATION...YES!...WE'LL SWITCH IT TO YOUR LINE!...

THE TELEPHONE EXCHANGE IS GIVING US A CALL! I'LL PUT IT ON THE INTERCOM...

BRIDOCOUT, TURN ON THE TAPE RECORDER. JUST IN CASE!...

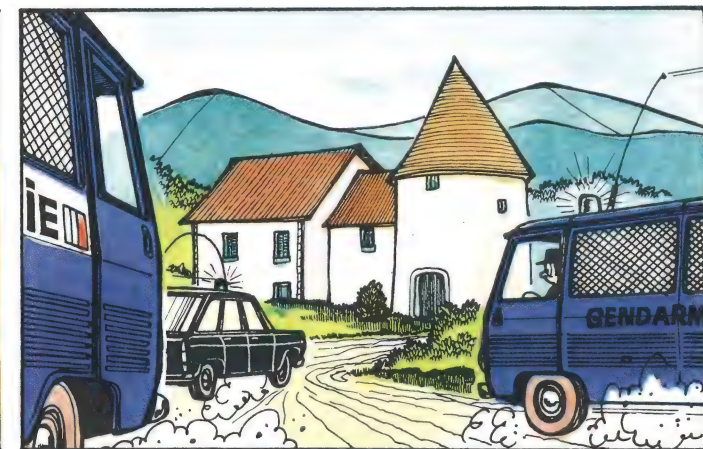
AYE!...OUCH!...SCOUNDRELS!!...-YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE US THIS FORMULA, OK?...-AH! AAAAH!! GOOD! GOOD!...IN THE OLD BREAD OVEN... AT THE BOTTOM OF THE BAKERY!...HEY! LET GO OF ME! ...LIFT THE STONE, AND TO THE LEFT!!...

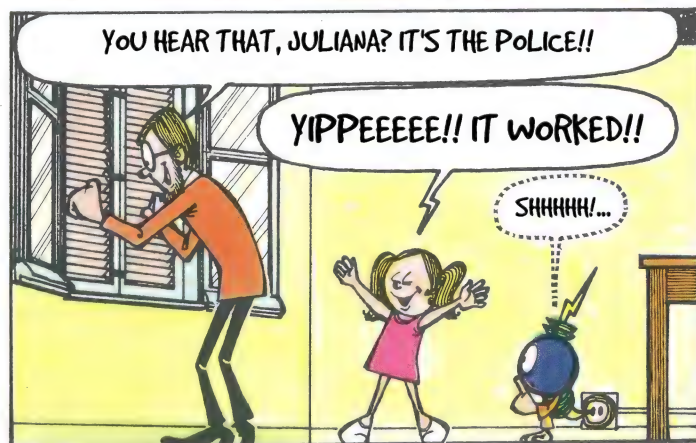
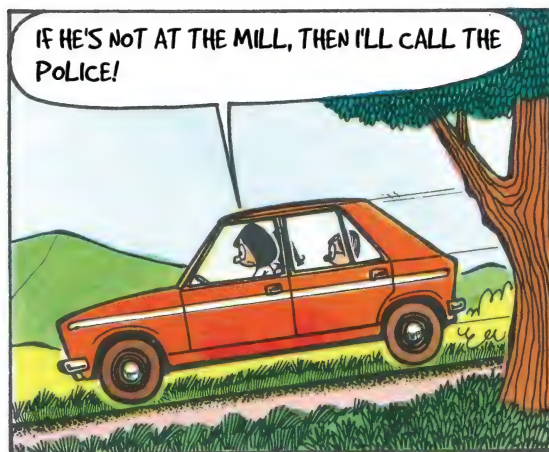
HELLO...HELLO...MADAME! PLEASE QUICKLY FIND THE SOURCE OF THIS COMMUNICATION FOR ME!

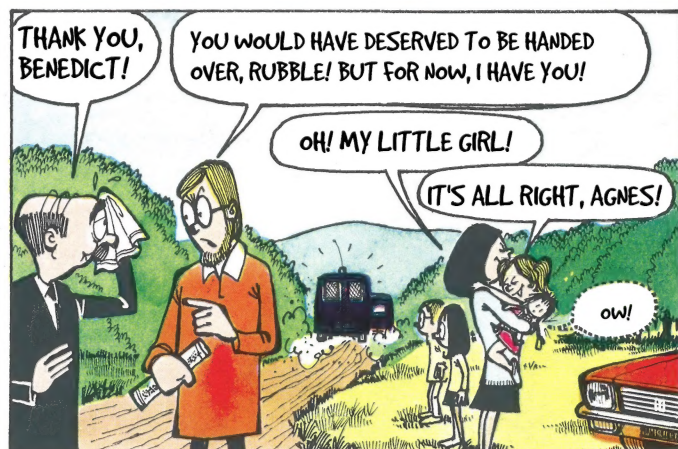
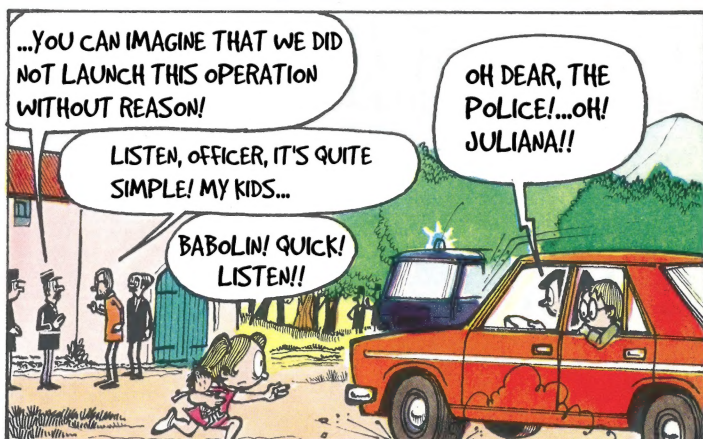
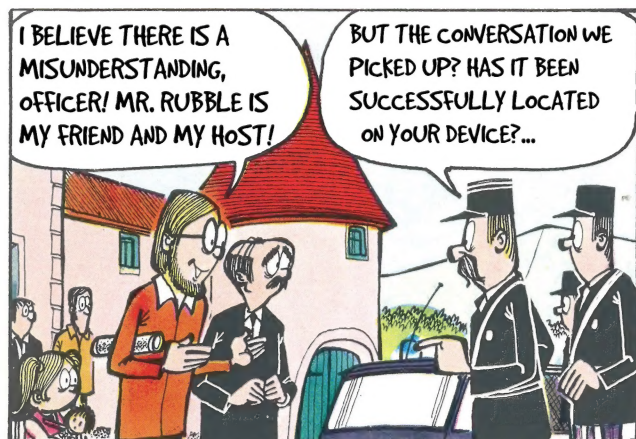
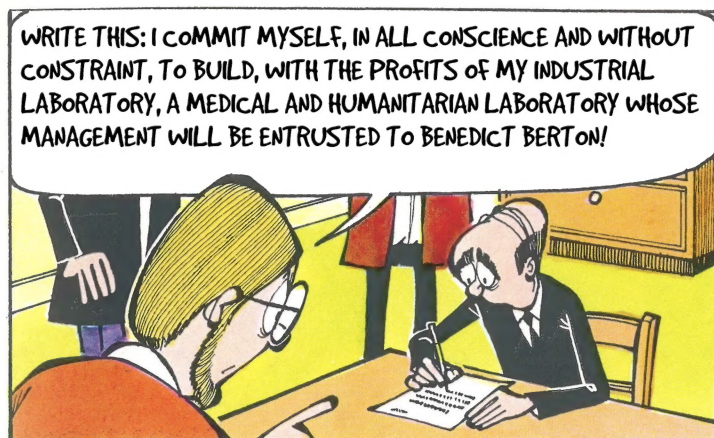
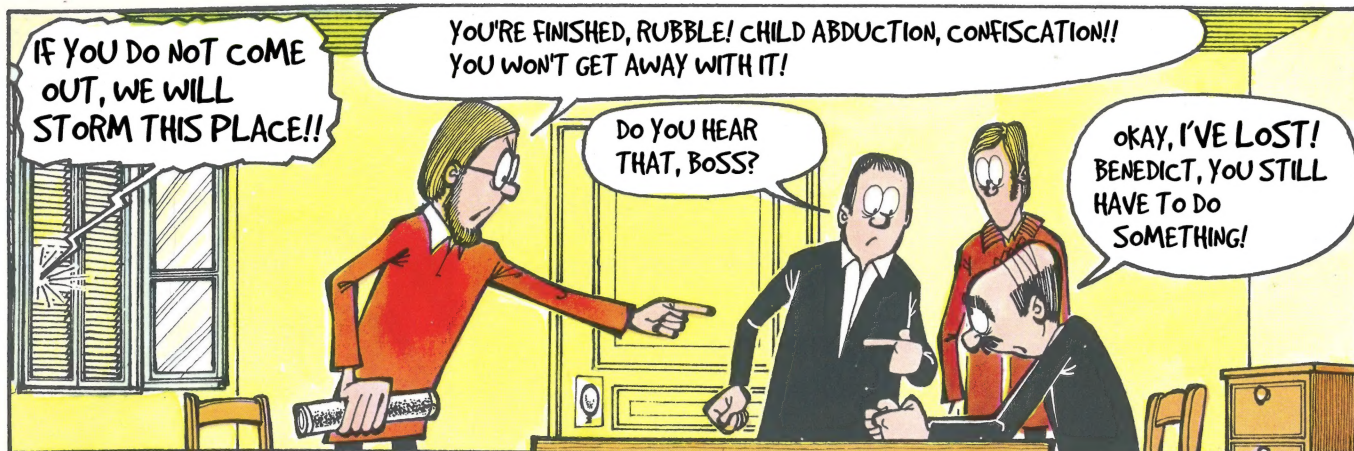
FOR A HIDEOUT, BOSS, IT SURE IS A HIDEOUT!

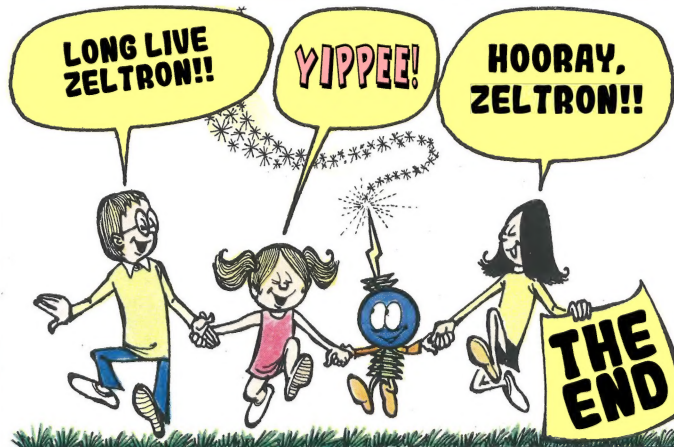
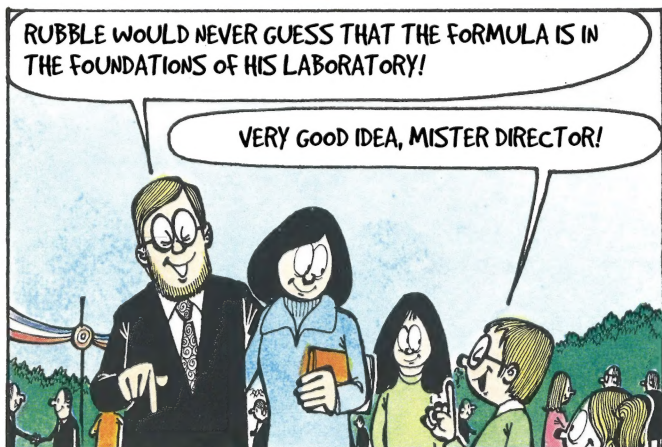
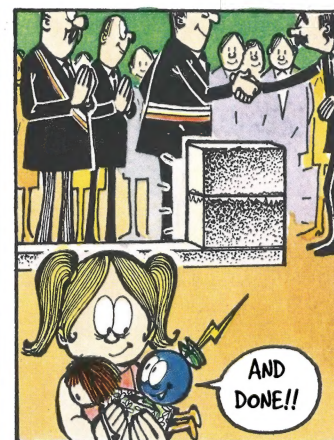
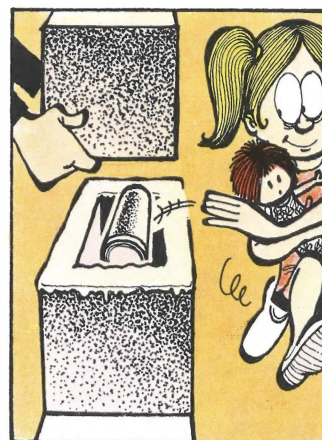
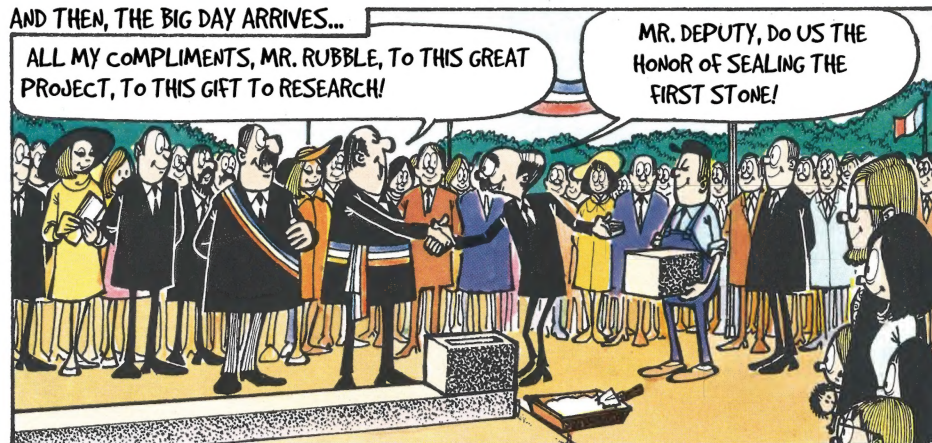
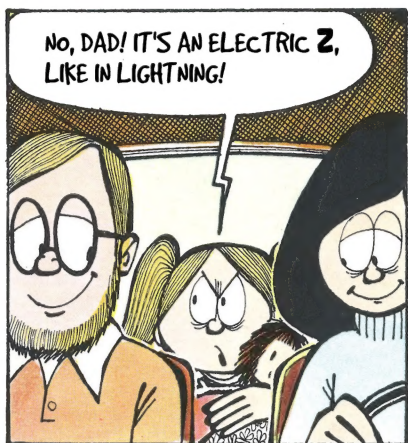
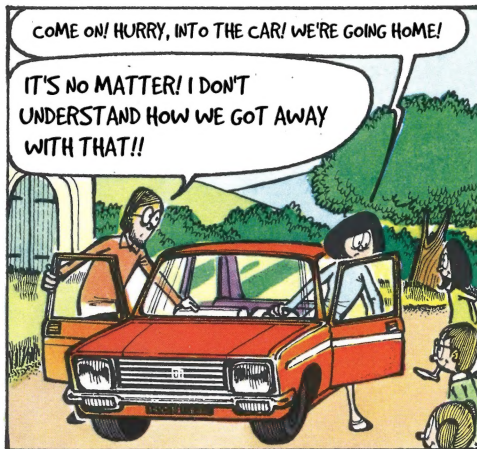
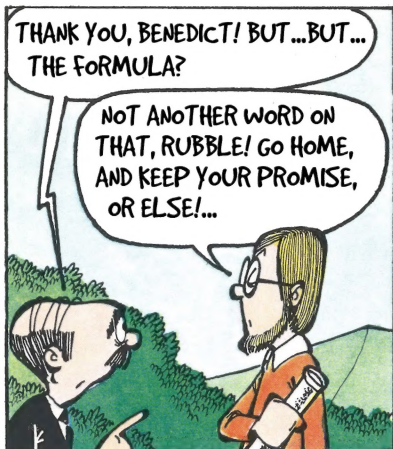
COME ON, PUT SOME FORCE INTO IT, YOU LAZY BUM!!

AH HA!! THE FORMULA!! I'M GONNA BE RICH!...THE FORMULA!! **THE FORMULA!!** HA, HA, HA!!









B-173-443



ISBN 2-19 - 290 516 - 5